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CONTENTS

14 September 1990

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japan

Responses to Middle East Situation Continue 1
  'Iraqi Shock' Said Manageable *[KYODO]* 1
  Saudis To Partly Cancel Decision *[KYODO]* 1
  Kuwaiti Freighter Enters Naha *[KYODO]* 1
  UN Support Team Concept Viewed *[KYODO]* 1
  LDP Leaders Unhappy With Limits *[KYODO]* 2
  Hostages Said Held at 10 Sites *[KYODO]* 2
  Government To Increase Aid *[KYODO]* 3
  Aid To Be Disbursed 'Swiftly' *[KYODO]* 3
  More Aid to 'Frontline' States *[KYODO]* 3
  Aid 'Not in Response' to Pressure *[KYODO]* 4
  JSP Leader Doi Attacks Plan *[KYODO]* 5
  Nakayama on U.S.-Iraq Mediation *[KYODO]* 5
Indonesian Energy, Mining Minister Visits 5
  Meets With Kaifu, Nakayama *[KYODO]* 5
  Meets With Kenjiro Ogata *[KYODO]* 6
Naha Port Facility Move to Awase Said Proposed *[RYUKYU SHIMPO 13 Sep]* 6
Soviet Official Urges Investment in Gas Project *[KYODO]* 7
Soviet Consular Official Visits Nemuro *[KYODO]* 7
Lists of Forced Korean Laborers Said Found *[KYODO]* 7
Final Installment of Loan to ROK Offered *[KYODO]* 8
ROK Official on North, USSR, PRC Ties *[KYODO]* 8
Emergency Relief Given to ROK Flood Victims *[KYODO]* 9
Official Optimistic on Vancouver APEC Meeting *[KYODO]* 9
Meeting Fails To Settle Amorphous Metals Issue *[KYODO]* 10
Value-Added Network To Be Set Up With Canada *[KYODO]* 10
Justice, Okinawa Development Ministers Named *[Tokyo TV]* 10
  Further on New Ministers *[KYODO]* 10
Central Bank Governor Warns of Inflation *[KYODO]* 11

North Korea

Reunification Committee Chairman on N-S Talks *[KCNA]* 12
North-South Officials To Discuss UN Membership *[Pyongyang Radio]* 12
Yon Hyong-muk Sends Message to Kang Yong-hun *[KCNA]* 12
Liaison Officials Discuss Negotiation Details *[KCNA]* 12
Message Requesting Liaison Officials Meeting *[KCNA]* 13
Lao President Supports Reunification Plan *[KCNA]* 13
Commentary Assails 'Feverish' U.S. Arms Buildup *[KCNA]* 13
Party, State Leaders Greet Kim Il-song *[KCNA]* 13
  More Foreign Greetings Received *[KCNA]* 14
Vietnamese Friendship Group Visits Cooperative *[KCNA]* 14
Delegations Visit Cuba, Regional Health Meeting *[KCNA]* 14
Kim Il-song Sends Greetings to Ethiopia *[KCNA]* 14
Pak Tong-chun Meets With Ethiopian Diplomats *[KCNA]* 15
Yang Hyong-sop Meets French Senate Delegation *[KCNA]* 15
Kang Sok-chu, Delegation To Attend UN Session *[KCNA]* 15

Kim Sends Greetings to Nicaraguan President *[KCNA]* 15
Dailies Mark Ethiopian Liberation Anniversary *[KCNA]* 15
Editorial on Party Anniversary, Founding Cited *[KCNA]* 15
Editorials Hail Founding Anniversary of DPRK *[KCNA]* 16
Party Officials Speak to Bank, Financial Clerks *[KCNA]* 17
Cement Production Exceeds 1989's Output *[KCNA]* 18
* Contract System Used in Materials Supply Work *[NODONG SINMUN 13 Jul]* 18
* Soldiers Join in 'Tongil Street' Construction *[MINJU CHOSON 21 Jun]* 21

South Korea

Kim Il-song Returns to Pyongyang From PRC *[YONHAP]* 22
    Editorial on Kim's Intentions *[KYONGHYANG SINMUN 13 Sep]* 22
    PRC Has 'Nothing to State' *[YONHAP]* 23
North's Code Compared to National Security Act *[YONHAP]* 23
Kim Tae-chung on Inter-Korean Talks, Assembly *[YONHAP]* 23
No Urges Brotherhood With North in Asian Games *[YONHAP]* 24
Caution Urged in Japanese Approach to Pyongyang *[THE KOREA TIMES 14 Sep]* 24
    Japanese Official Comments *[YONHAP]* 25
Soviet Expert Analyzes Inter-Korean Relations *[CHOSON ILBO 9 Sep]* 25
Foreign Minister Comments on UN Issue, Mideast *[YONHAP]* 26
British Parliamentarian Arrives for Talks *[YONHAP]* 27
    Speaks at National Assembly *[YONHAP]* 27
Kim Tae-chung's Role in Unified Opposition *[IRYO SINMUN 8 Jul]* 28
Two Defense Budget Proposals Passed to No *[THE KOREA HERALD 14 Sep]* 30
Professors Oppose Agricultural Market Opening *[YONHAP]* 30
Government To Increase Supplies, Control Prices *[YONHAP]* 30
Hospital Promotes Medical Exchange With Soviets *[YONHAP]* 31
* Pak Chol-on's Political Career Examined *[IRYO SINMUN 8 Jul]* 31

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Burma

Editorial Views NLD Arrests, Notes Tensions *[Bangkok THE NATION 8 Sep]* 34
Exiled Monks Urge Probe Into Deaths at Rally *[Bangkok THE NATION 8 Sep]* 34

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Brunei

'Senior' Official Welcomes Cambodia Accord *[AFP]* 35

Malaysia

Foreign Minister Welcomes Cambodian Accord *[AFP]* 35
AFP Reports Mahathir Offers Help in Cambodia 36
Commentary on Oil Production, Food to Jordan *[Kuala Lumpur International]* 36
Border Villagers To Watch for Foreign Intrusion *[Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES 7 Sep]* 36
Navy To Study Indonesian Submarine Facilities *[NEW STRAITS TIMES 5 Sep]* 37
Government Orders Artillery Vehicles From FRG *[Kuala Lumpur International]* 37
Mahathir on Elections, UN Visit, Toll Charges *[NEW STRAITS TIMES 4 Sep]* 37

Singapore

Diplomatic Ties Established With Western Samoa *[Singapore Radio]* 38

Cambodia

Developments Continue in Planning SNC Session 38
    To Be Held in Bangkok 17 Sep *[SPK]* 38

Hun Sen Discusses Session *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 38
Hun Sen, Sihanouk Stances Noted *[Bangkok BANGKOK POST 14 Sep]* 39
Paper Welcomes 'Major Step' *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 40
Phnom Penh Radio Marks SRV National Day 41
Agriculture Minister Thanks USSR for Aid *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 41
Sar Kheng Speaks at Party Cabinet Meeting *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 42
Party-State Delegation Visits Army School *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 42
Deputy Defense Minister Tours Banteay Meanchey *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 42
Phnom Penh Reports Combat Successes in Aug *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 42
23 Enemy Troops 'Killed' in Week Ending 1 Sep *[SPK]* 43
Phnom Penh Claims 177 'Enemy' Forces Killed *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 43
Thai Article Paints Life Amidst Fighting *[Bangkok BANGKOK POST 5 Sep]* 43
SPK Updates Farming Activities by End of Aug 44
Over 2,000 Misled Return in Past 10 Months *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 45
UNICEF To Continue Food Program 1991-93 *[SPK]* 45
Rumor on SNC Meeting in Jakarta Dispelled *[Radio VONADK]* 45
Khieu Samphan Interviewed on Jakarta Meeting *[Radio VONADK]* 45
Son Sann Interviewed After Jakarta Meeting *[Radio VOK]* 46
VONADK Says Curfew Imposed in Battambang 46
8 Enemy Trucks Reportedly Hit Mines on Route 12 *[Radio VONADK]* 46
150 SRV Troops Said Sent to Koh Kong Province *[Radio VONADK]* 47
Attack Reported on Bamnak Seat, Krakor District *[Radio VONADK]* 47

Indonesia

MERDEKA on U.S. Policy Shift on Cambodia *[7 Sep]* 47
Alatas Wants SNC To Immediately Occupy Seat *[Jakarta Radio]* 48
Sudharmono, Iranian Official on Atomic Energy *[ANTARA]* 48
Survey Shows More Faith in Foreign Media *[SUARA PEMBARUAN 19 Aug]* 48
Academic Says Force Inappropriate in Next Era *[THE JAKARTA POST 31 Aug]* 49
Human Rights Group Forms New Labor Union *[AFP]* 50

Laos

PASASON Welcomes Jakarta Cambodia Statement *[Vientiane Radio]* 50
SRV National Assembly Delegation Arrives *[Vientiane Radio]* 50
Editorial Welcomes Group *[Vientiane Radio]* 51
Medal Conferred on Vietnam TV Marks Founding *[KPL]* 52
Sali Vongkhamsao Attends DPRK Reception *[KPL]* 52
DPRK Leaders Greeted on Founding Anniversary *[Vientiane Radio]* 52
North Korean Youth Delegation Arrives 7 Sep *[KPL]* 53
2,000 Attend Rally *[KPL]* 53
Phoumi Vongvichit Greets Mongolian President *[KPL]* 53
Radio Reports on Student Action in Savannakhet *[Lao Liberation Radio]* 53

Philippines

Manglapus Sees 'Drawn Out' Bases Negotiations *[THE MANILA CHRONICLE 13 Sep]* 54
Senate Urges Return of U.S. Camp, Station *[THE MANILA CHRONICLE 12 Sep]* 54
Transfer of Bases Talks to U.S. Suggested *[MALAYA 11 Sep]* 55
British Firm Hired To Study Bases Conversion *[MALAYA 6 Sep]* 55
Aquino Briefs Media on Multisectoral Meeting *[Quezon City Radio]* 56
Aquino Explains Peace, National Security Council *[Manila Radio]* 58
Aquino Urged To Prove Charges Against Laurel *[Manila Radio]* 59
Patrol Around Camps Stepped Up After Explosion *[MALAYA 6 Sep]* 59
Extreme Left Said 'Isolated' by Truce *[THE MANILA CHRONICLE 14 Sep]* 59
Ramos Commends Capture of Armory Raiders *[Manila Radio]* 60
P2-Million Worth of Explosives Seized *[THE MANILA CHRONICLE 11 Sep]* 60
General De Villa Submits Retirement Papers *[PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 9 Sep]* 61

Thailand

Chatchai on Hun Sen Meeting, Military Reshuffle *[Bangkok Radio]* 61
Daily Urges Khmer To Implement Peace Plan *[BANGKOK POST 13 Sep]* 62
Chatchai Meets Visiting ASEAN Correspondents *[Bangkok Radio]* 62
Supreme Court Revokes NAEO NA License *[Bangkok Radio]* 63
Foreign Ministry To Move Workers From Iraq *[Bangkok Radio]* 63
Deputy Minister Reports on Talks in Norway *[Bangkok Radio]* 63
Sitthi Resigns as Bangkok Member of Parliament *[Bangkok Radio]* 64
'Rumours' of Government-Military Split Examined *[THE NATION 14 Sep]* 64
Athit Assigned To Scan Military Proposals *[BANGKOK POST 14 Sep]* 65
Army Chief Denies Moves To Oust Minister *[BANGKOK POST 14 Sep]* 65
Central Bank Reports Trade Deficit Widens *[BANGKOK POST 14 Sep]* 65
Inflation After Oil Price Increase Estimated *[Bangkok Radio]* 65
Government Increases Retail Oil Prices *[THE NATION 13 Sep]* 65

Vietnam

Vo Nguyen Giap To Attend Asian Games Opening *[KYODO]* 66
More Remains of U.S. Servicemen Returned *[VNA]* 66
No Plans Made To Move Workers Stranded in Iraq *[AFP]* 67
Do Muoi Congratulates New Mongolian Premier *[VNA]* 67
Le Quang Dao in Laos on 'Official Visit' *[VNA]* 67
Vietnamese Leaders Receive Indian Trade Group *[VNA]* 67
Nghe Tinh-Soviet Movement Anniversary Marked *[VNA]* 68
Vo Chi Cong Visits Lai Chau Province *[Hanoi Radio]* 68
Article Calls for Suppression of Counterfeits *[Hanoi Radio]* 68
Nguyen Duc Tam Attends Cryptographic Ceremony *[Hanoi Radio]* 69
Council of Ministers Issues Directive on Capital *[Hanoi Radio]* 69
Professor Tran Nham Views Democratic Socialism
[TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN Jun] 69

AUSTRALASIA

Australia

Government Confirms Company Sold Arms to Iran *[AFP]* 74

New Zealand

Moore Offers To Help UN With Cambodia Peace *[AFP]* 74
Defense Program Review With Canberra Welcomed *[Melbourne International]* 74

Papua New Guinea

Government Naming New Venue for Peace Talks *[Melbourne International]* 74

Japan

Responses to Middle East Situation Continue

'Iraqi Shock' Said Manageable

OW1009143690 Tokyo KYODO in English 0746 GMT 10 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 10 KYODO—Bank of Japan (BOJ) Governor Yasushi Mieno said Monday the Japanese economy can tolerate the current oil price level of about 30 dollars per barrel if domestic inflationary pressures are under control.

"Oil prices at around 30 dollars per barrel are manageable if Japan can prevent higher oil prices after the so-called 'Iraqi shock' from triggering domestic inflation," Mieno said at a luncheon at the Foreign Correspondents Club of Japan. "But there would be a major impact if oil prices soar to 40 or 50 dollars," he said.

Mieno defended the 0.75-percentage-point hike in the BOJ's official discount rate August 30. He said it will hold down inflationary pressures and contribute to sustained economic growth in Japan. "And given the sheer weight of the Japanese economy in the global economy, stable expansion of the Japanese economy is vital to the further growth of the world economy and the stability of international financial markets," he said.

The rate hike was the fifth since May last year, but is little reason for the BOJ chief to feel safe about future price movements. Mieno warned that future price trends will also require vigilance, as the Gulf crisis could rekindle latent inflationary pressures.

"Despite the series of rate hikes, the growth in Japan's money supply, though showing a little slowdown recently, remains at a substantially high level," he said.

He said the central bank will maintain its tight grip on credit until the money supply falls "to a reasonable level."

Mieno dismissed a view that the rate hike will destabilize financial markets both at home and overseas. "Rather, it has helped remove the uncertainties of monetary management which had weighed on the markets," he said. But the BOJ will continue to watch closely the developments of the markets which remain uncertain with the dim outlook of the Gulf situation, he said.

Questioned about currency rates, Mieno said the yen-dollar rate was very stable from May to December last year, moving in the 140-145 yen range. Mieno's view is that the current level of the yen, which stood at around 140 yen against the U.S. dollar, is not high enough to concern the BOJ.

On the impact of the current U.S. economic slowdown on Japan's monetary policy, Mieno said it will lead to a stronger yen. "And it is unthinkable for the stronger yen to hamper the monetary engineering of the BOJ," he said.

Saudis To Partly Cancel Decision

OW1009154290 Tokyo KYODO in English 1522 GMT 10 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 10 (KYODO)—Saudi Arabia will partly cancel its earlier decision to suspend its supply of petroleum products and will ship them to Japan at the end of September as originally contracted, Japanese petroleum industry sources said Monday.

Following the August 2 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, Saudi Arabia announced that it would stop shipments of petroleum products such as kerosene and gas oil from its Jubail Oil Refinery in September. The country said it has to supply fuel for the U.S. military forces stationed in the Middle East.

The reason for the decision is not yet known, according to the sources, but it is probably because the country has ample stocks of oil products for supply to the U.S. forces, they said. They said the U.S. military has been buying fuel in many different places such [as] Singapore, but that it might have a surplus since no military conflict has occurred so far.

Kuwaiti Freighter Enters Naha

OW1009140990 Tokyo KYODO in English 1255 GMT 10 Sep 90

[Text] Naha, Sept. 10 KYODO—A Kuwaiti-registered freighter entered the U.S. military port in Naha, Okinawa Prefecture, on Monday, apparently to transport military supplies to the Persian Gulf, local officials said.

The officials said the 15,000-ton class vessel Danah will probably load cars and trucks which have been painted in beige as possible camouflage for use in the desert. According to U.S. military sources in Okinawa, the supplies will probably be provided to U.S. Navy units from Okinawa now deployed in the Gulf.

The vessel is likely to leave the port Wednesday, the sources said.

UN Support Team Concept Viewed

OW1109053990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0359 GMT 11 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 11 KYODO—The Japanese Government is studying the possibility of dispatching Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel overseas, by temporarily transferring them to a new "peace cooperation team," to support United Nations peacekeeping activities, government sources said Tuesday.

The idea of the peace cooperation team, modeled after the UN peacekeeping forces in the Middle East, Africa, and their reserve forces, was first proposed by Prime

Minister Toshiki Kaifu last month when he announced measures in which Japan intended to contribute to resolving the Persian Gulf crisis resulting from Iraq's invasion of Kuwait on August 2.

The Government is planning to create a new public official category under the auspices of either the Foreign Ministry, the Prime Minister's Office, or the Management and Coordination Agency, to which SDF members will temporarily be transferred in advance of being assigned to the Peace Cooperation Team, the sources said.

The 1,000-strong peacekeeping team, to be gradually increased to 2,000, will be completely unarmed and be responsible for nonmilitary missions including medical care, transportation, communication, and election monitoring, the sources said. It will be also open to other public officials and the private sector, as well as volunteers, they said.

The Foreign Ministry and the Defense Agency have agreed in principle on the creation of the new force and utilization of SDF personnel in such functions, the sources said. But the dispatch of SDF members under the auspices of the Peace Cooperation Team to areas of international tension such as the Persian Gulf is likely to be controversial in the light of Article 9 of Japan's Constitution which bans the use of force as a means of settling international disputes.

The Government decided to establish the Peace Cooperation Team mainly with SDF personnel because they consider it impossible to set up such teams made up of non-SDF government officials or civilian volunteers, the sources said.

As of Tuesday, less than 10 volunteers from the private sector had applied to join the 100-member medical team Japan has pledged to send to support the U.S.-led multinational forces in the Gulf, the sources said.

Whatever the makeup of such peacekeeping teams, and even if their mission is not military in nature, the opposition parties are likely to say they violate the Constitution if their activities turn out to be supportive of one side in a conflict between nations, political observers said.

Some senior members of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), including Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa, rebut the idea of transferring SDF personnel to such a team as "makeshift," while the opposition parties reject it as expanding the SDF's functions and paving the way for military dispatch overseas.

The Government hopes to limit the legal wrangle by introducing new legislation on cooperation with UN peacekeeping efforts, and by making some changes in the National Administration Systems Law without touching on the revision of the SDF Law which would spark a fierce national debate, the sources said.

The Government plans to map out a blueprint on the idea before Kaifu meets U.S. President George Bush at the end of the month, and will submit a bill based on it to an extraordinary session of the Diet for early passage, the sources said.

The United States, in particular among the Western nations, has been asking for a greater contribution from Japan to assist the U.S.-led multinational military buildup in the Gulf region.

LDP Leaders Unhappy With Limits

OW1209141290 Tokyo KYODO in English 1323 GMT 12 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 12 KYODO—Senior leaders of Japan's ruling party expressed dissatisfaction Wednesday with the limits on dispatching military personnel overseas in a proposed "peace cooperation team" and said its establishment would skirt debate on the revision of Japan's peace Constitution.

The objections within the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) come as government officials are studying plans for dispatching noncombatant Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel overseas by temporarily transferring them to the new team.

The team, numbering some 1,000 medical, communication, and transport personnel, would be available to assist in United Nations peacekeeping operations. One party leader, terming the scheme a "stop-gap measure," said he is opposed to the creation of "a kind of second SDF."

The LDP official said the participation of only unarmed forces might be unacceptable in future U.N. operations, although the idea is desirable now. The official also criticized the peace team measure for avoiding debate on the Constitution. He said he is not advocating amending the Constitution, but a debate is essential.

Former Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe, leader of a major LDP faction, also voiced objections to limiting U.N. cooperation to unarmed SDF troops. In a speech delivered in Tokyo, Abe said Japan could say nothing to those who ask if it is fulfilling its responsibility as a major world power.

Abe called on Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu to "show bravery" in making a final decision in the midst of the Persian Gulf crisis.

Hostages Said Held at 10 Sites

OW1309155590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1521 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Baghdad, Sept. 13 (KYODO)—Iraq is holding at least 600 foreign hostages, including 141 Japanese, at 10 industrial and military facilities scattered around Iraq and Iraqi-conquered Kuwait which are potential targets of U.S. attacks, informed sources said Thursday.

Facilities in eight cities in Iraq cited by the sources include a chemical and fertilizer factory on the border with Syria northwest of Baghdad, an arms-producing complex in central Iraq, a military airport and oil refineries in northern Iraq, and Basrah Airport, flanked by an oil facility.

In addition, hostages are being held at nuclear and military facilities in suburban Baghdad, including Saddam Husayn Airport, the sources said.

In Kuwait, an oil refinery and a telecommunications center were mentioned as sites where foreign hostages are being held.

The sources said the 141 Japanese were sent to the strategic points after being asked to voluntarily form groups of up to 20 people according to the companies for which they work.

Government To Increase Aid

OW1309162390 Tokyo KYODO in English 1606 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 13 (KYODO)—Japan will provide an additional 1 billion dollars in financial assistance to the United States-led multinational forces in the Persian Gulf, government sources said Thursday.

Japan will also extend 2 billion dollars in economic assistance to Egypt, Turkey, and Jordan, the so-called "frontline" countries whose economies have been hard hit by the United Nations-approved economic sanctions against Iraq, the sources said. This will bring to 4 billion dollars the total amount of Japan's assistance to the multinational forces and affected countries.

Japan has already pledged 1 billion dollars to the multinational forces.

The government of Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu will early next week announce the additional measures in a second package of measures to back up international efforts to restore peace and stability in the Middle East, the sources said. It is not known when the cabinet will adopt the new package.

The United States, dissatisfied with Kaifu's pledge August 30 of 1 billion dollars for the multinational forces, has asked Japan to provide a total of 4 billion dollars, the sources said.

U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady made the request during a series of meetings with Kaifu, Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, and Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto on September 7.

Earlier Thursday, a top Foreign Ministry official said Japan is considering providing more financial assistance to the multinational forces.

Aid To Be Disbursed 'Swiftly'

OW1409080190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0741 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 14 KYODO—U.S. President George Bush praised Japan's commitment of an additional 3 billion dollars to help cope with the Gulf crisis in a telephone conversation early Friday with Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, Government sources said.

Kaifu, informing Bush of the Japanese decision during the 15-minute phone call, complimented the U.S. leader on the joint resolution condemning Iraqi aggression issued with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev last week.

While noting the crisis was still unpredictable, the U.S. President said he hoped for a peaceful solution. Bush also promised he would spread the news of Japan's latest contribution to the U.S. Congress and American people.

The U.S. House of Representatives adopted a defense bill amendment requiring that Japan foot 100 percent of the costs of stationing U.S. forces on its soil in a show of displeasure with Japan's previous 1 billion dollar contribution to the U.S.-led multilateral force in the Persian Gulf. Bush said it was a fact that many in the U.S. felt other nations should give greater support when young U.S. soldiers were placing their lives in danger.

Japan announced Friday a further 1 billion dollars for U.S. and other troops in the Middle East along with 2 billion dollars in economic aid to Eygpt, Turkey, Jordan and other countries affected by the United Nations trade sanctions on Iraq.

Kaifu told Bush concrete plans for the disbursement of the funds would be made swiftly, and also promised continued support for U.S. leadership in seeking a solution to the confrontation.

In a related move to increase foreign awareness of Japan's role, Kaifu consented to a television interview request from the U.S.-based Cable News Network (CNN) the same morning.

During the interview, Kaifu said the Iraqi invasion could not be allowed to destroy the post-cold war peace and outlined Japan's monetary contribution as well as plans to form a cooperation team for U.N. peacekeeping missions. Kaifu also said Japan will do what it can to respond to U.S. congressional demands to bear a larger financial burden of stationing U.S. troops in Japan.

More Aid to 'Frontline' States

OW1409034690 Tokyo KYODO in English 0209 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 14 KYODO—Japan on Friday pledged to add another 3 billion dollars to its financial assistance to international efforts in the Persian Gulf region, bringing its total contribution to 4 billion dollars.

The Government decided in a morning cabinet session to extend an additional 1 billion dollars in support for international military operations in the Gulf region, supplementing the 1 billion dollars already contributed for that purpose.

Japan will also offer some 2 billion dollars in loans and grants to the "frontline" nations of Egypt, Jordan, and Turkey to offset the impact of the Gulf crisis on their economies. Officials said 600 million dollars of that amount would consist of emergency commodity loans, which would carry a minimal annual interest rate of 1 percent, repayable over a 30-year period.

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu told U.S. President George Bush of the government decision in a telephone call Friday morning, government officials said.

Aid 'Not in Response' to Pressure

OW1409062590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1428 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 14 KYODO—Japan on Friday pledged another 3 billion dollars toward international efforts to resolve the crisis in the Persian Gulf, but ministers stressed that the increase was not in response to U.S. pressure.

The Government pledged in a morning cabinet session to double its contribution to multinational forces stationed in the Gulf area to 2 billion dollars, Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto said. The announcement came two weeks after Japan said it could afford only 1 billion dollars to provide logistical support for the U.S.-led forces.

In addition, Japan will provide 600 million dollars in emergency aid to Egypt, Jordan, and Turkey to help them overcome economic difficulties due to the Gulf crisis. An additional 1.4 billion dollars will be disbursed later to the three so-called frontline states and other countries in cooperation with international organizations, Sakamoto said.

U.S. President George Bush welcomed the decision in a telephone conversation with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, and said he plans to report to the American people that Japan is making its utmost efforts to help resolve the crisis, Sakamoto said. Bush made the remark when Kaifu telephoned him to inform him of the decision.

Sakamoto denied that the hike in Japan's contribution was formulated in response to harsh criticism from members of the U.S. Congress that Japan's earlier pledge to the multinational force was too little. "We listened to what various countries had to say, not just the United States, and in response to world opinion we decided it is better to make the increase," he told a news conference.

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama told reporters it is important for the Government to make it clear to the Japanese people that the latest financial package for "peace-restoring efforts" in the Gulf is not a product of U.S. pressure. Rather, he said, the Government decided on the package in consideration of national interests after it became clear that the turmoil in the region might be prolonged.

Nakayama explained that prolonged instability in the Middle East would have ramifications for the economic well-being of the Japanese people due to the country's high dependence on oil imports.

Noting that Japan limits its defense expenditures to around 1 percent of its gross national product, Nakayama characterized the Gulf expenditures as a form of "livelihood defense."

Responding to U.S. congressional criticism of funds pledged earlier by Japan so far as "token amounts," Nakayama said of the latest package, "I don't think a billion dollars is by any means a token amount."

Asked if Japan would consider U.S. calls to boost its contribution toward the costs of stationing U.S. forces in Japan, Nakayama said that Japan, "of its own accord," has been cooperative in the past and will continue to be so in the future.

Nakayama said he told other ministers at the cabinet meeting that it is important for Kaifu to appear on overseas television to explain Japan's efforts to the international community. He said the Foreign Ministry is undertaking efforts in this regard.

Kaifu is expected to make a television address when he visits New York later this month to attend a meeting on the welfare of children at the United Nations.

According to Foreign Ministry officials, the 600 million dollars in emergency commodity loans could be disbursed as early as mid-November, and will be paid out by the end of the year at the latest. The loans, carrying an annual interest of 1 percent, are repayable over 30 years.

The amount to go to each country will be decided by the time Kaifu visits the Middle East in early October, they said. Some of the remaining 1.4 billion dollars will also be disbursed before Kaifu leaves for the Middle East, they said. He is slated to visit Egypt, Jordan, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, and Oman October 1-10.

Recipient countries have asked that funds to meet emergency needs be rapidly processed, officials explained.

Other portions of the 1.4 billion dollar package are expected to be contributed to multilateral aid projects, officials said. The 1.4 billion dollars will consist of loans, grants, and technical cooperation. Export credits and trade insurance will not be included in the total 2 billion dollar package.

The Finance Ministry now has to decide whether to take the new 1 billion dollars for multinational forces in the

Gulf out of the current fiscal year's budget, as is the case with the previous 1 billion dollar commitment, or out of the budget for fiscal 1992.

JSP Leader Doi Attacks Plan

OW1409102390 Tokyo KYODO in English 0755 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 14 KYODO—Japan Socialist Party (JSP) Chairwoman Takako Doi said Friday she is opposed to the government's idea of forming a United Nations "peace cooperation team." The proposal, being studied as part of Japan's efforts to help resolve the Persian Gulf crisis, would open the way for dispatch of unarmed Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel overseas, she said.

Doi reiterated her objection to the plan before a meeting of the No. 1 opposition party's Central Committee. Japan's Constitution, renouncing the use of force as a means of settling international disputes, embodies the spirit of Japan and the JSP as well, she said.

Doi called for Japan to provide personnel and materials to help foreigners trapped in Iraq and Kuwait following the Iraqi invasion of the neighboring kingdom August 2, as well as refugees streaming out of the region.

The JSP committee unanimously denounced the steps announced by the government to ease the Middle East crisis. The Japanese Government has pledged a total 4 billion dollars in financial aid to international efforts in the Persian Gulf region.

The committee called the government measures to extend logistical support to U.S.-led multinational military forces deployed in the Gulf wrong both constitutionally and politically, claiming the U.S.-led multinational forces are not backed by the U.N. Charter or any U.N. resolution.

The JSP leader said Japan should keep its cool in reacting to a resolution passed by the U.S. House of Representatives Wednesday calling for Japan to shoulder the whole cost of maintaining U.S. forces stationed in Japan. She said the party will submit concrete proposals on Japan's contribution to resolving the Gulf crisis when the Diet is called into extraordinary session in mid-October.

The JSP will also propose abolition of the consumption tax and enactment of political reforms, she said.

Nakayama on U.S.-Iraq Mediation

OW1409145290 Tokyo KYODO in English 1433 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 14 KYODO—Japan would be prepared to mediate between Iraq and the United States if Iraq pulled out of Kuwait and released all foreign hostages, Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama said Friday. Nakayama made the remarks in a nationally broadcast television interview.

"If Iraq requests Japan to act as a mediator with the U.S., we would be prepared to do so as long as it withdraws its forces from Kuwait and releases all foreigners," Nakayama said.

Nakayama called on the Japanese public to understand that it is in the national interest for Japan to contribute to the multinational military efforts in the Persian Gulf aimed at countering Iraqi aggression. He denied that Japan's pledge of 2 billion dollars for the multinational forces infringes on the constitutional renunciation of the use of force to resolve international conflicts.

Nakayama stressed repeatedly that Japan was not "pressured" by Washington into extending funds to the military efforts. As an ally of the U.S., he said, Japan cannot just stand idly by while tens of thousands of U.S. youths lie ready in the suffering heat of Saudi Arabia to defend interests shared by the Japanese people.

Indonesian Energy, Mining Minister Visits

Meets With Kaifu, Nakayama

OW1009145390 Tokyo KYODO in English 1202 GMT 10 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 10 KYODO—Indonesian Energy and Mining Minister Ginandjar Kartasasmita said Monday he believes it is difficult for Indonesia to immediately boost its oil supply to Japan, but hoped the country can do so over the next year.

"Hopefully, we will increase our supply to Japan in the coming months. ... However, we also have to bear in mind that there are other countries who also ask for more oil from Indonesia, like Korea, the Philippines, India, and Pakistan. I think their problems are much bigger than the problems that the Japanese face, because you have plenty of stocks," Ginandjar told a press conference.

But he predicted Indonesia can increase oil supply to Japan in the next year, boosting output to 1.42-1.45 million barrels per day (bpd), against the current 1.28 million bpd.

In a bid to ease mounting pressures on the oil market after Iraq's invasion and annexation of Kuwait, Indonesia has announced that it will immediately increase its oil output by 100,000 bpd. He said his country plans to produce an extra 500,000 bpd from the next year.

Ginandjar, in Tokyo after a visit to South Korea, said it is impossible to arrest surging oil prices now, and the supply-demand balance is expected to tighten toward winter. "Prices will go much higher. They will not go down, at least," he said.

At full capacity the oil production by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), excluding Iraq and Kuwait, totals an estimated 21.5 million bpd, far below the 24.5 million bpd demand predicted for winter, he said. He said it is not likely for oil prices to return to the 20 dollar level.

Ginandjar also said he does not expect another meeting of the OPEC countries before December, if the Gulf crisis remains unsolved. But if the crisis is settled, there will have to be a meeting of member states to return to oil production quotas agreed at OPEC's general meeting in July.

Shortly after the eruption of the Gulf turmoil, the oil cartel agreed to abandon the July accord and allowed members to produce at full capacity in order to make up for the supply shortage from international embargoes against Iraq and Kuwait.

Ginandjar also made a courtesy call on Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu to deliver a message from Indonesian President Suharto expressing his views on the current Middle East situation.

The message said that Indonesia is ready to cooperate to stabilize the world energy situation as an OPEC member, according to officials.

The Indonesian minister earlier met with Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama and said that Indonesia is considering an increase in its crude oil output by 100,000 barrels per day by December.

Meets With Kenjiro Ogata

OW1009143490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0955 GMT 10 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 10 KYODO—Indonesian Energy and Mining Minister Ginandjar Kartasasmita said Monday the less developed countries (LDCS) will be the main victims of the current Gulf crisis which is squeezing world crude oil supplies, officials of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) said. His remarks were made in a 30-minute meeting with Kenjiro Ogata, the director general of the Agency of Natural Resources and Energy, the officials said.

Ginandjar, who is in Japan following an official visit to South Korea, said the recent OPEC decision to raise production will help fill supply shortfalls caused by the international embargo on Iraqi exports imposed after its invasion of Kuwait, the officials said.

But there will still be a shortfall of about a million barrels per day, he said.

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) last month agreed to allow some of its members to produce over their quotas by as much as three million barrels a day in a bid to replace a large part of the four million barrels per day of Iraqi-Kuwaiti oil that was exported to the world before the sanctions. Ginandjar was quoted as saying the OPEC decision was motivated by the shared concern that rising oil prices could eventually choke off the poor countries' economies.

As crude oil demand is expected to pick up in the fourth quarter, the continued world oil crunch will weigh heavily on the LDCS, the MITI officials reported the Indonesian oil minister as saying.

Ogata reportedly expressed thanks to OPEC for its decision to boost production, the MITI officials said.

Naha Port Facility Move to Awase Said Proposed

OW1309211390 Naha RYUKYU SHIMPO in Japanese 13 Sep 90 Morning Edition p 1

[Text] The Awase Communications Facility in Okinawa City is being talked about as a site for the Naha Military Port. This was disclosed by a source in the Defense Facility Administraiton Bureau [DFAB] on 12 September. The return of the port to Japan has been agreed upon by Japan and the United States.

According to the source, the U.S. forces have proposed removing the port facility to the Awase Communication Facility, and the Foreign Ministry and the DFAB of Japan have agreed to study the proposal. The government hopes to have final consultations on this by late October and to be able to make an announcement on a decision by the end of this year. However, reaching an agreement on this with the local government of Okinawa City is a different matter than reaching an agreement between Japan and the United States.

It is the first time that the Awase Communications Facility is specifically being mentioned in connection with the question of removing the Naha Military Port. This site specifically was brought up in Japanese-U.S. talks on a new agreement on the return of U.S. bases in Okinawa. The new agreement being discussed follows the last agreement announced in June. In current talks regarding the return of the bases, a total of 15 sites including the Naha Military Port are said to be discussed for possible return.

The return of the Naha Military Port was agreed upon by the Japanese-U.S. Security Consultative Committee in 1974 on the condition that another site for it to move to would be provided. However, because of the problem of finding a new site to move to, it has not been clear when the return could be expected. However, as the port facility was nearly idle with less than 10 ships using it a month, there have been calls since last year for its return regardless of the conditions.

Governor Nishime asked for the return of the facility on his two visits to the United States, and the Okinawa Prefectural Consultative Council on the Conversion of Military-used Land and Base-land Issues made a request on its reutrn in August. Naha Mayor Kosei Oyadomari plans to make a similar request when he visits the United States in late November.

The Awase Communication Facility being mentioned as a possible site for the port is on the Awase Peninsula southeast of Naha City. It is a facility of about 55 hectares stretching from Awase of Okinawa City to Kogen. Administrative offices, warehouses, and antennas currently are located there, as well as the fleet operation command and naval aircraft facility elements of the U.S. Naval Forces.

So far, there have been reports mentioning Tengan Pier in Gushikawa City and White Beach in Katsuren-cho as possible sites for removal. However, each time these areas were mentioned, the respective local governments reacted with strong protest. Now, with even prefectural government authorities insisting that the idle military port should be returned without condition, the issue may be heading for a solution, although with twists and turns.

Soviet Official Urges Investment in Gas Project

OW1009142990 Tokyo KYODO in English 1235 GMT 10 Sep 90

[Text] Osaka, Sept. 10 KYODO—Japanese investment is eagerly sought for a natural gas development project in the Soviet Far East region, visiting Soviet official said at an international business onvention opened in Osaka Monday. Vladimir Golanov, vice president of the Soviet Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said the Japanese energy authorities interested in alternative energy sources of oil and coal should consider the investment.

At the three-day global business opportunities convention, Golanov also said Soviet businesses expect active Japanese investment in such fields as lumber, marine products, and iron ore development. But he stressed he hopes such products will be exported after local processing, to avoid losses.

This is the fourth convention of the kind, with about 680 business people and government officials from 41 countries taking part. The participants include the Soviet Union and East European nations. The main speakers at the convention include Lionel H. Olmer, former U.S. undersecretary of commerce, and Makoto Kuroda, former Japanese vice minister of international trade and industry.

Soviet Consular Official Visits Nemuro

OW1409102190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0835 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Nemuro, Hokkaido, Sept. 14 KYODO—A Soviet consular official became the first diplomat of that country allowed into the Hokkaido city of Nemuro in 20 years on Friday when he attended an exhibition marking friendship between the two countries.

I.A. Abdurakov, the Soviet consul general in Sapporo, is the first Soviet diplomat to visit the city in two decades under a ban on Soviet travel to the area, which overlooks islands occupied by the Soviets since the end of World War II.

In a speech at the opening of the exhibition, Abdurakov said the Soviet Union would change greatly in the future but there will be no changes in Soviet people's wish to develop friendship between the two countries. He called on the participants to join hands in making efforts for peace and for the future of their children.

Abdurakov and his wife and child were accompanied by two Soviet journalists who are covering the three-day exhibition, which features some 200 photographs contributed by the Soviet news agency TASS and a display of Soviet handicrafts.

A Soviet dance troop performed at the last such friendship exhibition held in the city in 1979. Exhibition organizer Takefumi Takemura said he traveled to Tokyo to persuade Foreign Ministry officials to lift the travel ban in light of thawing bilateral ties.

The city overlooks the Soviet-held islands of Kunashiri, Etorofu, Shikotan, and the Habomai group. Japan's demand for the return of the islands has prevented the signing of a peace treaty between the two nations.

Lists of Forced Korean Laborers Said Found

OW1009164590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1437 GMT 10 Sep 90

[Text] Osaka, Sept. 10 (KYODO)—Lists of 243,513 Koreans who were forcibly brought to Japan as laborers during Japan's 1910-1945 colonial rule of Korea have been revealed, a pro-Pyongyang Korean group said Monday.

According to a recent investigation conducted by the Japanese Government, the reported number of such Koreans was less than 80,000. The government launched the search in response to a request made during South Korean President No Tae-u's visit to Japan in May.

A member of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryun) said the lists have been kept in the national archives in Tokyo. They were as found by a joint research team of Chongryun and the Japan Federation of Bar Associations. He also said they have asked the Osaka Prefectural Government to publicize documents relating to Korean forced laborers, which was conducted by local governments nationwide in 1946.

According to the lists compiled by Japanese wartime special political police in 1945, the number of Koreans living in Japan except Okinawa, totaled 1,911,307 as of the end of 1944. Of the total, 243,513 had been forced to work during Japan's 35-year colonial rule of the Korean peninsula.

The largest single number was about 56,800 Koreans in Hokkaido, followed by Fukuoka with 47,800 and Nagasaki with 24,000, according to the lists. These areas used to have coal mines. More than 10,000 Koreans were enlisted in Hyogo and Osaka, where there used to be munitions factories.

The 1945 document of the defunct Japanese Interior Ministry says the country drafted 667,680 Korean and

Chinese to work in Japanese mines and factories from 1939 to 1945. Chyongryun estimates at least 2.06 to 5.5 million Koreans were drafted.

Final Installment of Loan to ROK Offered

OW1209020790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1354 GMT 11 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 11 KYODO—The Japanese Government said Tuesday it will offer 99.59 billion yen in loans to South Korea as the final portion of a total of the equivalent of 1.85 billion U.S. dollars worth of loans Japan agreed to in 1983.

The two countries agreed last December to end Japanese loans as South Korea has become a creditor nation since the mid-1980s, government officials said. Loans from Japan to South Korea have totaled 645.5 billion yen since the two countries normalized diplomatic relations in 1965.

According to the officials, the final loans will be used for seven projects in South Korea. They include subway construction in Seoul worth 72 billion yen, 11.52 billion yen for the modernization of small- and medium-sized corporations, construction of a feed plant worth 5.41 billion yen, and 4.32 billion yen for medical research facilities at Seoul University.

The repayment term is 25 years, including seven-year deferment. The interest rate is 4.0 percent a year, the officials said.

They said the South Korean economy has grown rapidly in recent years, showing trade surpluses since the mid-1980s. The country became a lender of capital to such countries as Indonesia and Nigeria from 1987.

ROK Official on North, USSR, PRC Ties

OW1209140790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1219 GMT 12 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 12 KYODO—Japanese and South Korean Foreign Ministry officials held regular bilateral consultations Wednesday, with the South Koreans calling on Japan to encourage North Korea to continue its dialogue with the South, Japanese officials said. The officials quoted Yi Chong-pin, South Korea's assistant foreign minister for political affairs, as telling the Japanese side that Seoul hopes Japan will pursue the subject in future contacts with Pyongyang.

The prime ministers of North and South Korea met in Seoul last week in the first high-level contact since the Korean peninsula was divided in 1945. The two are scheduled to have another round of talks in Pyongyang next month.

Yi's remarks followed Deputy Foreign Minister Hisashi Owada's comment that the Japanese Government intends to do whatever it can to assist ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) politician Shin Kanemaru's upcoming mission to Pyongyang.

Kanemaru, a leader of the largest faction in the LDP and a former deputy prime minister, plans to visit North Korea on September 24-28 as head of an LDP delegation. He will be accompanied by a Foreign Ministry official, officials said.

Owada said Japan hopes that Kanemaru's visit, the first by a leading LDP politician, will provide an impetus for government-to-government dialogue. Japan and North Korea have no diplomatic relations.

Yi and Owada, who headed the delegations to the talks, also discussed the crisis that has developed in the Persian Gulf region following the August 2 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. The South Koreans said Seoul will provide one aircraft and one freighter to back up multinational forces deployed in the Gulf region, but will not allow military goods to be transported on them, according to Japanese officials.

The two countries, which are both almost totally dependent on imported oil, have been pressed by the United States for greater contributions to the Gulf effort.

Reviewing last week's inter-Korean prime ministerial talks, Yi told Japan that Seoul and Pyongyang are still unable to reconcile themselves on specific ways of dispelling mutual distrust, Japanese officials said.

On relations between the Soviet Union and North Korea, Yi noted that while they are reportedly cooling, military cooperation between the two continues are to be maintained at a high level.

He said one of the main points of South Korea's diplomacy to promote ties with communist countries is to bring North Korea into the community of nations.

Yi said Seoul's ties with Moscow are proceeding smoothly ahead of a likely meeting of the two countries in New York later this month at the foreign ministerial level. But contacts with China are moving forward at a considerably slower pace, he was quoted as saying.

Seoul has formalized consular and trade ties with Moscow and set up full-fledged diplomatic relations with all East European countries, except for Albania and East Germany.

Yi said Pyongyang is charting its own course in the aftermath of political upheaval in Eastern Europe, putting weight on its friendly ties with China and Cuba while attempting to strengthen ties with European countries that have traditionally maintained relations with Seoul.

Yi told the Japanese side that Seoul is urging Pyongyang to agree to accept safeguard inspections of its nuclear facilities by the International Atomic Energy Agency, officials said. There is widespread concern that North Korea is attempting to attain a nuclear weapons capability.

Emergency Relief Given to ROK Flood Victims

OW1409035390 Tokyo KYODO in English 0146 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 14 KYODO—Japan is giving 2 million dollars in emergency relief assistance to South Korea to help it deal with the aftermath of floods and landslides which affected Seoul and neighboring areas after torrential rains earlier this week, Foreign Ministry officials said Friday.

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama told the cabinet that the assistance is being given out of humanitarian considerations and goodneighborly sentiment. He said at least 56 people had been killed, 37 listed as missing, and 65,000 injured, while some 15,500 houses had been destroyed.

Official Optimistic on Vancouver APEC Meeting

OW1109001890 Tokyo KYODO in English 2330 GMT 10 Sep 90

[By Shiro Yoneyama]

[Text] Vancouver, Canada, Sept. 10 KYODO—The 12 member countries of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) group on Monday begin a three-day meeting in Vancouver designed to "broaden the scope of consensus" on protracted global trade liberalization talks.

A senior Japanese trade official said "a good combination" of developing countries, economic superpowers, countries rich in natural resources, and agricultural states are in Vancouver to seek progress in each of the 15 fields under the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Talks.

The Japanese delegation "hopes to broaden the scope of consensus" through the APEC meeting, the official said, to facilitate progress in global trade negotiations participated in by over 100 countries.

The official discounted any major impact on the APEC conference from the Persian Gulf crisis, although Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama canceled his planned trip to Vancouver.

International Trade and Industry Minister Kabun Muto arrived Sunday from Europe where he got a gleaning of European sentiment toward the Uruguay Round, due to be completed in December in Brussels. The delegation also includes the Japanese ambassador from Geneva and officials from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

A high-ranking Canadian trade official said there are several key issues which require high-level political will at the December ministerial session on the Uruguay Round under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), if it is to be concluded successfully.

The issues are agriculture, textiles and clothing, safeguards, subsidies and countervailing duties, services, and intellectual property protection, he said. "Agriculture is the major one in my view," the Canadian official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Underscoring the importance of the APEC members to the GATT round, the official described them as "a formidable group" which together account for 60 percent of global trade.

The group comprises the United States, Japan, Canada, South Korea, Australia, New Zealand, and the six member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

On the eve of the APEC conference, Japanese officials said Japan is now inclined to accept across-the-board tariff reductions on mutually agreed products among industrialized countries. Japan will propose such tariff cuts on machinery and photographic film in the coming weeks.

Canadian officials said the Ottawa Government is seeking tariff reductions on fish, forest products, telecommunications, computers, and some chemicals.

The Japanese delegation will have a tough time defending Japan's near-total ban on rice imports, which the U.S. and other farm exporting countries say symbolizes Japanese reluctance to open up its market.

Another thorny issue involves textiles and clothing, to which several of the ASEAN countries attach special significance. "It's a big issue that is dividing us," a high-ranking Canadian delegate acknowledged.

Although no breakthrough in farm trade is in sight, the Canadian delegate was upbeat about the issue of government procurement codes, hailing the 12-nation European Community's latest offer as "very dramatic and exciting." He said the APEC ministers will discuss how to positively respond to the EC offer "individually and collectively."

Asked about APEC membership for China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong, another Canadian official said the 12-nation group has agreed on "the desirability of the three parties being part of the (APEC) process." She did not elaborate.

Canadian International Trade Minister John Crosbie's proposal for a world trade organization is another topic for discussion.

The APEC meeting is one of the two major trade conferences that Canada is hosting prior to the GATT ministerial meeting in December. Trade ministers from the U.S., Japan, the EC, and Canada will get together in St. John's, Newfoundland, from October 11 to 13.

Meeting Fails To Settle Amorphous Metals Issue

OW1309005290 Tokyo KYODO in English 2331 GMT 12 Sep 90

[By Shiro Yoneyama]

[Text] Vancouver, Canada, Sept. 12 KYODO—Japan and the United States failed to settle a dispute over amorphous metals at a high-level meeting in Vancouver on Wednesday, just three days before a U.S.-imposed deadline.

International Trade and Industry Minister [MITI] Kabun Muto said after the breakfast meeting with U.S. Trade Representative Carla Hills that he told her Japan "will do its best" to resolve the issue. Hills' spokeswoman told reporters the meeting was helpful. She did not elaborate.

A senior Japanese trade official said Muto rejected Hills' argument that the best way to settle the dispute is to agree on an extension of a patent held by the U.S. company at the center of the dispute, Allied-Signal Inc. The company's basic patent on the composition of the material used in its products expires in 1993.

"We cannot do that, nor can we revise the Japanese law," the official quoted Muto as telling Hills. The MITI minister proposed that other steps should be considered, but did not mention any specific measures.

Muto and Hills are in Vancouver to participate in a trade ministers' meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) group which is focusing on ways to bring the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks to a successful conclusion.

Hills said she is mandated by law to act on the amorphous metal case by Saturday, the final day of a 150-day negotiating period.

If the two countries fail to reach agreement by the deadline, Hills could accept the refiling of a petition by Allied-Signal, which would set in motion a seven-month investigation period. Allied-Signal complains that it is being denied a chance to sell its amorphous metal transformers in the Japanese market due to unfair trade practices that include a boycott by utilities.

On other issues, the Japanese official said, Muto defended subsidies for structural adjustment purposes. The U.S. contends such structural adjustment subsidies give Japanese companies an advantage over American and other foreign firms.

Hills repeated a U.S. call for Japan to demonstrate "flexibility" over its agricultural policies, though she did not mention its near-otal ban on rice imports, the Japanese official said.

She said Muto expressed concern about a textile industry protection bill now before the U.S. Congress, urging the U.S. Administration to veto the bill. Hills' spokeswoman Torie Clarke said President George Bush will veto the bill, but predicted it will be a "tough fight."

Asked about a shift in the American position on textiles and clothing under the Uruguay Round, Clarke indicated it is willing to explore all possibilities.

Hills told Tuesday's APEC plenary session that the U.S., like Canada, may abandon "global quotas" as a transitional measure before an international agreement replaces the current Multifiber Arrangement (MFA).

Value-Added Network To Be Set Up With Canada

OW1309164590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1519 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Ottawa, Sept. 13 (KYODO)—Japan and Canada reached a basic agreement Thursday to set up a value-added network (VAN) between the two nations as early as next year, a Japanese official said. The agreement was reached here by Japan's Posts and Telecommunications Minister Takashi Fukaya and Canadian Communications Minister Marcel Masse.

Canada will be Japan's third international VAN partner after a contract is signed in Tokyo in late October. The planned VAN project is in line with a U.S.-Japan agreement on telecommunications reached in August.

As it pledged to the United States, Japan has agreed to expand the services available under the project, to reduce the rates imposed by KDD—a Japanese telecommunications giant—on line users by 20 percent, and to make it easier for Canadian companies to advance into the Japanese VAN market.

Justice, Okinawa Development Ministers Named

OW1309035490 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Excerpt] Following the resignation of Shin Hasegawa, justice minister, and Shigetami Sunada, state minister in charge of Hokkaido and Okinawa development, due to illness yesterday, Yoshiaki Kibe, former construction minister of the Watanabe faction [of the Liberal Democratic Party], has been named to succeed Mr. Sunada from the same faction, while Seiroku Kajiyama, former Minister of International Trade and Industry [MITI] and member of the House of Representatives from the Takeshita faction, has been named to succeed Mr. Hasegawa. [passage omitted]

Further on New Ministers

OW1309094190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0709 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 13 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu appointed two new ministers on Thursday—Seiroku Kajiyama as justice minister and Yoshiaki Kibe as state minister for the development agencies for Hokkaido and Okinawa. The appointments follow the resignations of two cabinet members due to ill health.

Emperor Akihito attested the appointment of the two new ministers later in the day.

Kajiyama, 64, is a former home affairs minister and also served briefly as minister of international trade and industry under Prime Minister Sosuke Uno, who resigned after two months in office last summer in the wake of a sex scandal.

Kajiyama replaces Shin Hasegawa, who submitted his resignation Wednesday after suffering a debilitating stroke earlier in the week.

Kibe, 64, a former construction minister, was chosen to replace the state minister in charge of the development agencies for Hokkaido and Okinawa, Shigetami Sunada. Sunada had been unable to attend cabinet meetings since August due to chronic illness. Both he and Hasegawa tendered their resignations Wednesday.

The two new members were chosen after Kaifu consulted with Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa and faction leaders.

The announcement, which had been expected on Wednesday, was delayed after the first candidate for justice minister turned down the job, party sources said.

Former Science and Technology Agency chief Yuji Osada, 73, declined the post because he felt it might interfere with his bid to become president of the House of Councillors, the sources said.

The replacements are expected to serve through the duration of Kaifu's second cabinet, which is likely to be reshuffled in December.

The two men were selected in keeping with the convention of maintaining a balance among the LDP's major political factions, political analysts said. They are also believed to be free of involvement in the Recruit stocks-for-political-favors scandal, a qualification Kaifu has required of his previous cabinet appointees.

Kaifu was called on to serve as prime minister last summer after the scandal brought support ratings for the LDP to a rock-bottom low.

In his year in office, Kaifu has won some of the highest political support ratings of any postwar prime minister, which analysts say is in part due to his image as a clean politician.

In typical fashion, the new appointees declined to answer most questions about their views on political issues, deferring instead to the will of the public and the government.

Asked about his position on a new law being formulated to enable Japan to contribute personnel to United Nations peacekeeping activities in crises like that in the Persian Gulf, Kajiyama said he would listen to public opinion. The law is expected to stir controversy because it may raise the possibility of dispatching unarmed Self-Defense Force personnel overseas.

The major opposition Japan Socialist Party has said such action would violate the country's war-renouncing Constitution.

Kibe, who heads the Japan-Arab Parliamentarians' Friendship League said it is important for Japan to play a responsible role in helping resolve the Gulf crisis.

The two appointees are the first new cabinet members since Kaifu launched his second cabinet in February after leading the LDP to an unexpected victory in national elections for the House of Representatives.

Kajiyama is a seventh-term member of the House of Representatives from Ibaraki Prefecture. Like his predecessor Hasegawa, he is a member of the LDP faction led by former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, the largest in the party.

Kibe is an eighth-term member of the lower house from Shizuoka Prefecture. Both he and Sunada are members of the faction of Michio Watanabe, a former finance minister.

Central Bank Governor Warns of Inflation

OW1409102590 Tokyo KYODO in English 0724 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 14 KYODO—Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno said Friday that prices must be watched cautiously because the recent surge in oil prices poses the threat of inflation. Mieno told a gathering of nonlife insurance company representatives that Japan's economic expansion can be sustained as long as price stability is ensured.

Mieno said many companies remain bullish and have revised their capital spending plans slightly upward, according to the bank's latest survey. But he noted that the survey, released earlier in the week, indicates that an increasing number of corporations plan to raise prices to offset the increasing cost of raw materials. Mieno said this shows "how severe the price environment is."

Mieno called on nonlife insurance firms to adopt sound management of their assets based on risk management. Mieno said there is a growing trend of long-term management of assets to seek greater returns, but this causes greater management risks.

Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto, meanwhile, asked nonlife insurance companies to develop products tailored to the diversified needs of policyholders while maintaining the soundness of their businesses.

In a text read by parliamentary Vice Finance Minister Kenji Yamaoka before the gathering, Hashimoto also called for more competition in the nonlife insurance business in line with proposals by a government advisory panel.

North Korea

Reunification Committee Chairman on N-S Talks

SK1409052990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0453 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 14 (KCNA)—The Korean People's just cause of national reunification will surely be accomplished, said Guy Dupre, secretary general of the International Liaison Committee for the Reunification and Peace of Korea, when he met with a French radio reporter recently.

Referring to the North-South high-level talks, he said:

It must be made clear that the talks had been proposed by socialist Korea and arranged by the persistent, sincere efforts of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the course of preparing the talks was, so to speak, a course of overcoming the obstructive moves of the South Korean authorities.

Now the South Korean authorities are totally dependent on the United States and, on the other hand, they are under such pressure that they are not in a position to ignore the South Korean people's voice.

The South Korean authorities put coed Yim Su-kyong, Rev. Mun Ik-hwan and other democrats behind bars for no other reason than that they made efforts for reconciliation between the North and the South and the peaceful reunification of the country, he said, and added:

Under such circumstances, we cannot but be concerned over the attitude of the South Korean authorities, the typical model of dictatorship of modern version.

North-South Officials To Discuss UN Membership

SK1309125390 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1200 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] A contact between responsible liaison personnel to the North-South High-Level Talks was held today at Tongilgak in our side's area of Panmunjom.

Upon concluding the contact, the responsible liaison personnel of our side made the following remarks to reporters:

Issues concerning the talks between the delegates of the two sides for the discussion of measures related to the United Nations have been discussed in today's contact, as has already been agreed upon in the first round of the North-South High-Level Talks.

In the contact it was agreed to hold talks between the delegates of the two sides for the discussion of measures related to the United Nations, with the attendance of one delegate and two suite members from each side, in the conference hall of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission at Panmunjon starting at 1000 on the morning of 18 September, and to record the minutes of the talks on tape and in shorthand.

It has also been agreed to allow 10 reporters from each side to enter the conference room before the beginning of the talks to cover the event.

In order to have further discussions on necessary working procedures, including the structure of the talks, it has been agreed to continue contacts between the responsible liaison personnel in the House of Peace in the area of the South side at Panmunjom at 1400 on 17 September.

Yon Hyong-muk Sends Message to Kang Yong-hun

SK1409051990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0511 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 14 (KCNA)—Premier of the DPRK Administration Council Yon Hyong-muk, head of the North side's delegation to the inter-Korean high-level talks, today sent a telephone message to South Korean "Prime Minister" Kang Yong-hun, chief delegate of the South side's delegation.

The message says:

I hope a contact between delegates of the North and the South will be held at the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Panmunjom at 10:00 September 18 (Tuesday) to discuss the question of entering the United Nations as one member, as agreed upon between the two sides at the first North-South high-level talks.

One delegate and two suite members of our side will go to the contact.

I hope your side will take a corresponding step.

Liaison Officials Discuss Negotiation Details

SK1309153090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1523 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Panmunjom September 13 (KCNA)—A contact between the chief liaison officials of the North-South high-level talks took place at the Tongil House in our side's portion of Panmunjom today.

After the contact the chief liaison official of our side told reporters:

At the contact the sides discussed business-like matters concerning talks between delegates of the North and the South for the discussion of the UN membership problem, as had been agreed upon at the first North-South high-level talks.

It was agreed at the contact that the talks of delegates of the two sides be held at the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission at Panmunjom from 10:00 on September 18 with the participation of one delegate and two suite members from each side and the talks be recorded by tape-recorders, shorthand, etc.

It was also agreed that ten or less reporters from each side be allowed to enter the conference room for news coverage before the talks begin.

The sides agreed to continue the contact between the chief liaison officials at the "House of Peace" in the South side's portion of Panmunjom at 15:00 on September 17 to further discuss the form of talks and other necessary business-like matters.

Message Requesting Liaison Officials Meeting

SK1109113490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1108 GMT 11 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 11 (KCNA)—Yun Ki-pok, chairman of the North side's preparatory committee for the pan-national rally, today sent a message to the South side's promotion headquarters for the pan-national rally through the Red Cross hot line.

Stating that two liaison officials would be sent to the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission at Panmunjom at three PM on September 12 (Wednesday) to hand over a letter addressed to the South side's promotion headquarters, the telephone message asked the other side to take a corresponding measure.

Lao President Supports Reunification Plan

SK1409050990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0445 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 14 (KCNA)—Phoumi Vongvichit, acting president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, stated that the Lao people and youth would continuously support the Korean people's struggle for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country when he met a delegation of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea headed by its chairman Choe Yong-hae on September 11.

He said he was convinced that Korea would be reunified without fail under the leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

When the U.S. troops are ousted from South Korea, peace will be guaranteed on the Korean peninsula, he said.

Commentary Assails 'Feverish' U.S. Arms Buildup

SK1409055590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0448 GMT 14 Sep 90

["Behind Facade of 'Detente'"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang September 14 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN in a commentary today assails the United States for getting feverish in the production of weapons and military buildup, doubling the production of anti-aircraft missiles "Patriot" and "ATACMS [Army Tactical Missile System]."

The U.S. arms production and buildup are by no means intended for peace, the news analyst says, and goes on:

They show that although the United States is loud-mouthed about "disarmament" and "detente," it, in actuality, has not given up the dream of establishing domination over the world by nuclear threats and blackmail, sticking to the stand of strength.

The aggressive design of the United States finds glaring manifestation in its scheme to keep its occupation forces and nuclear weapons indefinitely in South Korea. While talking volubly about its "troop reduction" in South Korea, it is actually further reinforcing its forces there.

The U.S. imperialists are also beefing up the armaments of the South Korean puppets.

Their moves are the source of the acute tension and the growing danger of war on the Korean peninsula.

In the Gulf, too, the United States has hurled huge armed forces and is jeopardizing peace in this region through its military intervention.

The U.S. imperialists' policy of strength, nuclear threats and blackmail are anachronistic, the news analyst says, stressing: The more persistently they resort to their policy of strength, the further they will be isolated from and rejected by the people.

Party, State Leaders Greet Kim Il-song

SK1309044290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0429 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 13 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, received messages of greetings from foreign party and state leaders on the occasion of the 42nd anniversary of the founding of the DPRK.

They came from G. Ochirbat, chairman of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party; Paul Biya, president of the Republic of Cameroon; Manuel Pinto da Costa, president of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe; Felix Houphouet-Boigny, president of the Republic of Cote D'Ivoire; Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev, king of the Kingdom of Nepal; Sultan Azlan Shah, king of Malaysia; Veerasamy Ringadoo, governor-general of Mauritius; Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Executive Committee of the national leadership of the Sandinist National Liberation Front; Jose Francisco Aguilar Bulgarelli, general secretary of the popular force organized in Costa Rica; Vassos Lyssarides, chairman of the Central Committee of the Socialist Party of Cyprus and president of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Cyprus; Rolando Brena Pantoja, president of the National Executive Committee of the Left Revolutionary Union of Peru; and Sam Marcy, chairman of the National Committee of the Workers World Party of the United States.

A message of greetings came in their joint name to President Kim Il-song and premier of the Administration Council Yon Hyong-muk from Ramiz Alia, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Party of Labour of Albania and president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania; and Adil Carcani, chairman of the council of ministers of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania.

The messages extend warmest congratulations to President Kim Il-song and wish him long life in good health.

They wish the Korean people continuous wellbeing and progress and express solidarity with the cause of Korea's reunification.

More Foreign Greetings Received

SK1409052590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0440 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 14 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, received messages of greetings from foreign party and state leaders on the occasion of the 42nd anniversary of the founding of the DPRK.

They came from Lansana Conte, president of the Military Committee of National Redressment, president and head of state of the Republic of Guinea; H. Desmond Hoyte, president of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana; Obiang Nguema Mbasogo, president of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea and founder-chairman of the Democratic Party of Equatorial Guinea; Ali Saibou, president of the National Movement for the Society of Development of Niger and president of the Republic of Niger; 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, president of the Command Council of the National Salvation Revolution of the Republic of the Sudan; Suharto, president of the Republic of Indonesia; 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Presidential Council of the Republic of Yemen; Ilyas al-Hirawi, president of the Republic of Lebanon; and Andre Kolingba, president and head of state of the Central African Republic.

The messages warmly greet the 42nd anniversary of the founding of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

They express solidarity with our people's cause of national reunification and manifest the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the DPRK and above-said countries will grow stronger.

Vietnamese Friendship Group Visits Cooperative

SK1309045890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0443 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 13 (KCNA)—A friendship meeting with the members of the delegation of the Vietnam-Korea Friendship Association was held at the Korea-Vietnam friendship Chamjin cooperative farm on September 12.

Invited there were the members of the delegation led by chairman of the association Le Vandy [as received], first deputy minister of heavy industry, and officials of the Vietnamese Embassy here.

Officials concerned and members of the management board of the farm and farmers were present.

They had a conversation in a friendly atmosphere.

Prior to the meeting, the guests went round the farm.

Delegations Visit Cuba, Regional Health Meeting

SK1209111590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1056 GMT 12 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 12 (KCNA)—A friendship delegation of the General Bureau of Diplomatic Corps Affairs of Korea led by its Director Han Pong-ku, to visit Cuba, and a delegation of the Ministry of Public Health of Korea led by its Vice-Minister Kim Yong-ik, to attend the 43rd session of the WHO Regional Committee for South-East Asia to be held in India, left here today.

Kim Il-song Sends Greetings to Ethiopia

SK1109111490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1031 GMT 11 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 11 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, today sent a message of greetings to Mengistu Haile Mariam, general secretary of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Workers' Party of Ethiopia, president of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and commander-in-chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, on the occasion of the 16th anniversary of the victory of the people's revolution in Ethiopia and 3rd founding anniversary of the Republic.

The message says:

Since the victory of people's revolution in Ethiopia your people under your correct leadership have made a strenuous progress along a road of building an independent new life and are now waging a vigorous struggle for consolidation and development of their genuine people's power, the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.

The Korean people extend their full support and firm solidarity to the Ethiopian people in their just cause of safeguarding the revolutionary gains and achieve national unity and the stability of the country.

Convinced that the friendly and cooperative relations between our two peoples firmly established in the common struggle against imperialism and for independence will further develop in scope, I take this opportunity of sincerely wishing you and your people greater successes in the struggle to settle peacefully the question of northern region of the country and build an independent and powerful Ethiopia.

Pak Tong-chun Meets With Ethiopian Diplomats

SK1409060190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0508 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 14 (KCNA)—A meeting was held at the Korea-Ethiopia Friendship Wonsan University of Agriculture on September 13 on the occasion of the 16th anniversary of the victorious revolution of the Ethiopian people and the third anniversary of the founding of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.

Present there were Pak Tong-chun, vice-chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and vice-chairman of the Korea-Ethiopia Friendship and Solidarity Committee, Yi Chong-il, vice-chairman of the Kangwon Provincial Administration and Economic Guidance Committee, and other officials concerned and teachers and students of the university.

Ethiopian Ambassador to Korea Fisseha Geda and his embassy officials were invited to the meeting.

Speeches were exchanged there.

A congratulatory letter to the Ethiopian president was adopted at the meeting.

Yang Hyong-sop Meets French Senate Delegation

SK1409052790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0447 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 14 (KCNA)—Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly (SPA), met and had a friendly conversation with the French senators delegation led by Rene Regnault at the Mansudae Assembly Hall on September 13, when it paid a courtesy call on him.

Present there was deputy to the SPA U Chong-hak.

Kang Sok-chu, Delegation To Attend UN Session

SK1209111090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1055 GMT 12 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 12 (KCNA)—A DPRK delegation led by First Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Kang Sok-chu, left here today to attend the 45th session of the United Nations General Assembly.

It was seen off at the airport by Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Choe Su-hon.

Kim Sends Greetings to Nicaraguan President

SK1409105290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1017 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 14 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea today sent a message of greetings to Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, president of the Republic of Nicaragua, on the occasion of the independence day of the country. Expressing the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries will further develop, the message wishes her great success in her work for the prosperity of the country.

Dailies Mark Ethiopian Liberation Anniversary

SK1209105390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1009 GMT 12 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 12 (KCNA)—Dailies here today dedicate signed articles to the 16th anniversary of the victory of the people's revolution in Ethiopia and the 3rd anniversary of the foundation of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.

The victory of the People's Revolution in Ethiopia and the founding of the People's Democratic Republic were an epoch-making occasion which realized the century-old desire of the Ethiopian people to live independently as the masters of the state power, free from the shackles of feudalism, NODONG SINMUN says, and goes on:

The Ethiopian people are struggling to consolidate the gains of the people's revolution and accomplish its cause.

Non-aligned Ethiopia is striving for the complete liberation and development of Africa and for the solidarity and cooperation among countries in the region of [the] Horn [of Africa], while pursuing an anti-imperialist, independent foreign policy.

Deep are the feelings of friendship between the peoples of Korea and Ethiopia. Diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level were established between the two countries and the relations of friendship and cooperation have developed with each passing day. Today these relations are further strengthening and developing in the interests and desire of the two peoples.

MINJU CHOSON says: The Korean people wish the Ethiopian people greater success in their efforts to build a strong Ethiopia where independence, peace and social progress are firmly ensured.

Editorial on Party Anniversary, Founding Cited

SK1309052990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0456 GMT 13 Sep 90

["NODONG SINMUN Calls for Greeting 45th Party Founding Anniversary With High Political Enthusiasm and Big Labour Achievements"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang September 13 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today editorially calls upon all the party members and other working people to greet the 45th founding anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea (October 10, 1945) with high political enthusiasm and great labour achievements.

The party founding anniversary this year will be particularly auspicious as it is celebrated at a time when our party enjoys an immensely high dignity and honour as a great guide responsible for the destiny of our country and nation and as the steadfast defender of the cause of socialism and when our people have become stronger in their determination to carry the socialist cause of chuche to accomplishment under the guidance of the party and the leader, the editorial says, and goes on:

It will be a striking demonstration of high honour and dignity of our party which has performed imperishable feats for the times and the revolution and the country and the people to celebrate the 45th founding anniversary of the party with high political enthusiasm and shining labour achievements.

The 45-years covered by the glorious Workers' Party of Korea is a proud history in which the party has been strengthened and developed into the most authoritative and dignified party with invincible power in leading the revolution and construction along the road of sure victory.

Now our party demonstrates its dignity as a party united as firm as a granite on the basis of the chuche idea, the unitary ideological system firmly established in itself, and an invincible party which valiantly overcomes rigorous trials of the revolution, having blood ties with the popular masses and raising their role.

It is a sacred work to powerfully demonstrate the might of the best socialism of our style for the entire party members and the working people to make strenuous efforts to celebrate the 45th party founding anniversary with high political enthusiasm and shining labour achievements.

Our socialism, the embodiment of the the chuche idea, is superior socialism which enables all the members of society to enjoy to their heart's content a genuine political life, an affluent economic life and sound ideological and cultural life and an invincible socialism which constantly emerges victorious, invariably defending the banner of the revolution from the malicious anti-socialist moves of the imperialists and all other reactionaries. The attraction and vitality of our superior socialism will grow immensely when all the party members and other people make continued innovations and uninterrupted advance towards a new victory in the socialist construction, rallied firm behind the party, and create greater labour gifts for the 45th party founding anniversary.

The editorial calls for increasing the political and ideological might of our revolutionary ranks and making the whole of society prevail with a political atmosphere of upsurge in order to significantly celebrate the party founding anniversary.

Noting that it is a very important task for significantly celebrating the party founding anniversary to effect a new upsurge in socialist economic construction, it calls upon all sectors and units to make strenuous efforts to fulfil the vast plan for this year ahead of schedule.

Editorials Hail Founding Anniversary of DPRK

SK0909105190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1037 GMT 9 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 9 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN and MINJU CHOSON today dedicate editorials to the 42nd anniversary of the founding of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (September 9, 1948) which stress the DPRK is a great revolutionary gain of our people in their long-drawn-out, hard-fought struggle for independence, sovereignty and socialism.

The editorial of NODONG SINMUN says the founding of the DPRK by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song is an immortal feat he performed for our nation and country.

By advancing under the banner of the Republic our socialism has become a most powerful, viable socialism which is growing stronger and developing constantly on the solid basis of independence, self-support and self-reliance in defence, it notes.

Pointing out that in our country the leader, the party and the masses are closely united as an integrated whole, it terms this as our most precious achievement in the struggle for the strengthening and development of our Republic and for socialism.

The imperishable exploits performed by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song are now being firmly defended, developed and enriched by our party, it says, stressing:

Dear Comrade Kim Il-song has constantly strengthened and developed the government of our Republic as a powerful weapon for modelling the whole society on the chuche idea, as a revolutionary regime which thoroughly ensures the party's leadership and has led ambitious grand construction projects to victory, thus bringing a new life of genuine socialism into reality in this land. It is a result of his energetic leadership that the unity and cohesion of the party and the masses which constitutes the solid political basis of the Republic has been cemented as an indestructible one and a large number of grand monumental structures which guarantee prosperity of our country and the posterity of our nation have been built up.

The editorial elaborates on the need for the entire people to strive hard to bring earlier the complete victory of socialism, closely rallied behind our party and the government of our Republic.

Noting that to reunify the country is the supreme task of the nation, it goes on:

In order to achieve the reunification of the country by peaceful means, it is necessary to ease the tension and guarantee peace on the Korean peninsula, pull down the wall of division and realize free travel and full-scale opening between the North and the South of Korea. And the North and the South must develop foreign relations on the principle of creating an international climate favorable to the self-determined, peaceful reunification of the country and, especially, solve the question of Korea's U.N. membership on the basis of a nationwide agreement, an agreement between the North and the South.

We will make strenuous efforts to have contact and dialogue with the South Korean authorities and, at the same time, to further develop non-governmental dialogue between people of all walks of life in the North, South and abroad.

Party Officials Speak to Bank, Financial Clerks

SK1309230490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1505 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 13 (KCNA)—A national meeting of financial and bank clerks opened here today.

The meeting is significant in that it is held this year on the lapse of 20 years since our party laid down the policy of day-to-day review of production and finance.

It will discuss the tasks of the financial and bank clerks to step up the grand march of socialist construction in the 1990s through a drive for increased production and economy, upholding the historic policy speech of the great leader President Kim Il-song and the resolution of the 17th plenary meeting of the Sixth Central Committee of the party.

The conference was attended by Yi Chong-ok, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president, and other party and government officials.

"On improving the financial and banking business," a letter of Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, to the participants in the national meeting of financial and bank clerks, was conveyed at the conference.

In the letter, Comrade Kim Chong-il indicates the orientation and ways of improving the financial and banking business as required by the developing reality, noting that our finance which had nothing but an empty safe at the time of the liberation of the country has today a solid foundation to satisfactorily provide by itself a huge amount of fund needed for economic construction and defence building and people's life.

Socialist finance is an economic relation in the course of which the state secures in a planned way and distributes and uses in a unitary way the currency needed for socialist construction and the country's household keeping as required by the popular masses, the letter says. It gives a scientific and theoretical exposition as regards that socialist finance is, in essence, to use for the people the money earned by them and lays down unique principles of financial management.

The letter gives comprehensive answers as to the tasks and ways arising in socialist financial and banking business such as the question of correctly working out and thoroughly fulfilling the state budget, the question of improving financial administration of factories and enterprises and the question of placing the currency circulation of the country on a solid basis and introducing a strict rule in financial summing up and control.

The letter stresses the need for the party organisations to do effective organisational and political work to implement the financial policy of the party and strengthen the party's leadership of financial and banking business.

Yon Hyong-muk, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and premier of the Administration Council, made a report at the meeting.

He quoted the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as teaching:

"Laying the solid basis of the state finance and solving all financial problems by ourselves is precisely the basic line of financial administration in our country."

With a deep insight into the new requirement of the developing revolution and basing himself on a wealth of practical experiences accumulated in the course of leading the revolution and construction the great leader President Kim Il-song expounded an independent idea and theory on socialist financial and banking affairs and has wisely directed the work to increase the function and role of the financial and banking business in keeping with the development of socialist construction in depth.

In the whole course of socialist construction, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has directed deep attention to tightening the financial discipline and wisely led the work of building the economic life of the country tenaciously and methodically through a correct financial assessment and control.

Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il, attaching importance to the financial assessment in tightening the financial discipline of the country, put forward an original policy on the daily assessment of production and finance, established a regular system ranging from daily assessment of production and finance at workteams to ten-day, monthly, quarterly and annual financial assessment at workshops, industrial establishments, commissions, ministries and the administration council and made it regular and an inseparable part of the daily life.

Our finance, while investing a colossal amount of funds in economic construction, reliably guarantees in finance the popular policies of the party and the government to boost the socialist life of the people so that they may be successfully translated into practice.

Our socialist finance is a most superior chuche-based finance which actively contributes to applying the principles of independence in politics, self-sustenance in economy and self-reliance in national defence and a popular finance which makes it possible to constantly boost socialist life, giving full scope to the advantages of the socialist system, the reporter stressed, and continued:

Our people have laid by themselves firm independent financial foundations today from scratch and are dynamically stepping up the socialist economic construction, the reporter said, and stressed: This is entirely the results of the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song who has brightly illumined the road ahead of the socialist financial and bank business of our country and put his heart and soul into its realisation, and the noble fruition of the energetic guidance of our party.

Today we are facing the task to improve and strengthen financial and bank business in conformity with the demand of the developing reality to step up the general march of the 1990s and conquer a new high peak of socialism.

He laid stress on effecting innovations in financial and bank business, managing the nation's economic life more assiduously through the struggle for increased production and economies and further consolidating the independent finacial foundations so as to actively contribute to accelerating the complete victory of socialism and building a people's paradise on our motherland.

He stated that all factories and enterprises should be made to properly enforce the cost-accounting system to give rise to the revolutionary zeal of the producer masses and improve industrial management in a scientific and rational way and wage a vigorous drive for increased production and economies.

The meeting continues.

Cement Production Exceeds 1989's Output

SK1309100390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0959 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 13 (KCNA)—Cement output at the cement factories of Korea in the last eight months was 400,000 tons more than in the corresponding period last year.

This achievement is attributable to the fact that the production capacity of the cement factories increased 4.3 percent and the operation rate of the kilns over nine percent compared with the same period last year and the conditions for material and fuel supply have been improved and the norm of their consumption lowered.

Entering this year, the cement output showed a 14.8 percent gain at the Sunchon cement complex and a 20.4 percent gain at the Sangwon cement complex over the figure in the same period last year with much less consumption of oil and fuel.

The Sunghori cement factory turned out 30,000 extra tons of cement in this period.

* Contract System Used in Materials Supply Work

902C0283A Pyongyang NODONG SINMUN in Korean 13 Jul 90 p 3

[Article by Pak Yong-kun: "Contract System Is the Most Superior Materials Supply Method"]

[Text] In socialist society, the supply of materials is an important economic organizational work to ensure fulfillment of the people's economic plans materially. Therefore, in socialist economic management, the form and method used in the materials supply work to ensure the fulfillment of plans largely determines whether or not the superiority of the socialist planned economy system is maintained and given full play. Early on, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song set forth his creative ideology concerning the contract system in the supply of materials and established the materials supply system to put it into practice and, by doing so, showed us the correct way to solve the question of the materials supply in socialist society.

The planned supply of materials under the contract system is the socialist materials supply method consistently adhered to by our party. Recently, our great leader again taught about the need for thoroughly implementing the contract system in carrying out the economic management work satisfactorily. This teaching by our great leader is a programmatic guideline which our economic guiding functionaries should grasp firmly and implement thoroughly.

In the socialist economic management, no other materials supply systems are better than the contract system.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song taught:

"Our experiences in the past 40-odd years in the guidance of the economic work show that no method is better than the contract system in ensuring the materials supply in accordance with the principles of socialist economic management."

The contract-based materials supply means a system under which enterprises deliver or receive materials in the format of commodity transaction by signing contracts with one another on the basis of detailed state plans. In other words, it means the implementation in a commercial format of the unified and planned state supply of materials. In the contract-based materials supply, the unified and planned state supply and the use of commercial format form a unity with primary emphasis on the planned supply.

The planned supply of materials by contract system is the fundamental method of the socialist materials supply that suits the characteristics of socialist society and the principles of socialist economic management. Socialist society has its transitional character as well as its communist character. In the distribution of the means of production, the law of value exerts its influence in terms of format, along with the law of planned and balanced development of the people's economy, in a reflection of these two characters.

In this connection, the law of planned and balanced development of the people's economy plays a fundamental role while the law of value takes an auxiliary position. The unique character of socialist society is that everything is produced, supplied and consumed according to plans. Therefore, the materials supply in socialist society essentially means the unified, planned supply by the state. On the other hand, factories and enterprises in socialist society are state-owned and yet managerially act independently with one another due to the society's transitional character. Hence, individual enterprises are respectively required to account for their income and expenses under the independent economic accounting system. They do not give and take products free of charge but deliver and receive in the form of selling and buying under the principle of equivalent compensation. At this point, the commercial format serves as a means to effectively materialize the planned supply. All this shows that the contract system is precisely the materials supply method that correctly embodies the demands of economic laws as defined by the characters of the socialist society. It also shows that the contract system is the only method to ensure the materials supply in accordance with the fundamental principles of socialist economic management on correctly combining the unified state guidance and the initiative of individual units and on correctly implementing the independent economic accounting system.

The contract system can be powerful only when combined with a suitable materials supply system. Our party, adhering to the contract system consistently during the entire period of socialist economic construction, has ceaselessly improved the materials supply system and method in a way conforming to the demands of the economic construction in each stage. In our country, complexes were organized in accordance with the demand of the Taean work system and the materials supply system improved accordingly. It was an epochal step ensuring the success of the contract-based materials supply work.

The materials supply system in our country is a system under which complexes, under the guidance of central economic organizations, directly sign contracts on the basis of the given plans and trade in materials in the form of commercial transaction. Each complex constitutes a contracting unit that trades in materials by signing contracts with other complexes. At the same time, it is the basic unit of materials supply that directly secures and supplies the necessary materials for factories and enterprises under it. Thus, each complex as the unit of planning, the unit of production and the unit of implementation is held directly responsible for the materials supply; as a result, there has been an improvement in ensuring the scientific and realistic quality of the detailed materials supply plans and the contract discipline has been further strengthened.

The materials supply system in our country enjoys vast superiority in that it makes the contract system work better in conformity to the principles of socialist economic management.

The materials supply system in our country—under which each complex serves as the contracting unit and the basic materials supply unit—is a superior system which, while giving top priority to strengthening the unified state guidance, brings the initiative of each unit into fuller play and, by so doing, makes it possible to satisfactorily carry out the planned supply of materials. The correct combination of the unified state guidance and the initiative of individual units is the basic principle of socialist economic management reflecting the intrinsic demand of the socialist economy. Only when this principle is adhered to can the economy be developed rapidly and systematically and with balance.

The materials supply system in our country, first of all, makes it possible to ensure success of the unified and planned state guidance in the materials supply work. We see it most vividly in the fact that materials supply contracts are signed in such a way that they ensure the fulfillment of the demands of the unified and detailed state plans. It is strictly on the basis of the detailed state plans that complexes sign and implement their materials supply contracts. Consequently, materials supply contracts give a specific form to state plans that make the demand for, and production of, materials dovetail in all details on a nationwide basis; their correct fulfillment ensures that the materials supply work is carried out thoroughly in accordance with the unitary state plans in every detail. The contract system thus makes it possible for the intent of the party and the state, namely, the unified planned guidance is carried through successfully in the materials supply work.

That the materials supply system in our country makes it possible to satisfactorily carry out the unified state guidance in the materials supply work can also be seen in the fact that the central economic organizations have their established system of unified control and guidance over the materials supply work at complexes. In the materials supply work in our country, committees and ministries of the State Administration Council and the central general materials trading companies make arrangements for complexes to sign contracts correctly, maintaining general control over problems arising in the contract signing proces and dealing with them in a timely fashion. They also set up systems for monitoring and controlling progress in the fulfillment of contracts by complexes, seeing to it that contracts are fulfilled in compliance with the party's policy demands set forth for each period.

Also, the materials supply system in our country makes it possible to bring the responsibility and initiative of enterprises into full play. Under this system, complexes are responsible for the securing and supply of materials. As a result, it enhanced the responsibility and initiative of complexes. Complexes are relying less on the state for materials needed in production; they secure them for themselves. As for raw materials and other materials and supplies which they cannot secure by themselves, they will sign contracts with other complexes for them; then, in accordance with the demand of the Taean work system, they deliver materials thus secured all the way to production sites of base-level factories and enterprises. By doing so, complexes come to display positiveness and the initiative in getting potential raw and other materials fully mobilized and utilized and ensuring conservation and effective use of materials that have been secured. Furthermore, inasmuch as complexes sign contracts with one another on the basis of strict calculations and are held responsible for the terms of contracts once they are signed, they come to endeavor hard for their fulfillment. As a rule, terms of contract clearly indicate the limits of responsibility of the parties involved. Thus, in the contract-based materials supply, profits and losses are shown clearly and they come to have a major impact on the revenue, expenses and management activities of the enterprises concerned. Consequently, the contract-based materials supply system in our country leads enterprises to give full play to their originality and initiative in management so that they can fulfill the contracts on time and in a correct fashion. So, our materials supply system is a superior system that makes it possible to successfully carry out the materials supply work in accordance with the intrinsic demand of the socialist economy—by enhancing the responsibility and initiative of enterprises on the basis of strengthening the unified state guidance.

The materials supply system in our country, under which the complex is the contracting unit and the basic unit of materials supply, is also a superior system making it possible to effectively ensure the supply of materials in accordance with the principle of socialist economic management, namely, the principle of rationally utilizing economic leverages and correctly implementing the independent economic accounting system.

Under the contract-based materials supply system in our country, when an enterprise transfers a means of production to another enterprise, it does so by receiving the payment of the price—the unitary price set by the state under the principle of equivalent compensation and on the basis of the required and expended public labor—and, by doing so, makes use of the law of value that comes to work in form in the process.

The use of the law of value ensures, first of all, the correct conduct of the materials supply work. In this case, the currency serving as a medium in the distribution of the means of production between state-run enterprises works as a means to materialize the commercial form of transaction, a means of won-based control. Thus, the form of value ensures strict calculations and, based on them, leads contracts to be placed in a correct manner, accelerating fulfillment of the contracts at the same time. Furthermore, the rational use of the form of value contributes to preventing wastes of public labor and strengthening conservation systems in the production and distribution of the means of production. And thus, it contributes to ensuring the profitability of enterprises and to expanding state stockpiles systematically. The fact that materials change hands on the basis of the prices set under the principle of equivalent compensations serves to heighten the interests on the part of enterprise functionaries in economic leverages such as the cost, price, profitability and profit. The form of value used in the distribution of the means of production prompts enterprise functionaries to calculate the prices of raw materials and other materials, struggle harder to reduce the cost of transportation and make efforts to procure the necessary materials cost-effectively. It also encourages them to take measures for effective use of materials while lowering the standard of material consumption per unit of product and economizing their use, and thus to reduce the costs of products and increase the profitability of their enterprises. In addition, the rational use of the form of value, particularly the strengthened won-based control, leads to the strengthening of financial discipline, quickening the turnover of the funds in circulation and to the effective use of funds. Thus, the contract-based materials supply system in our country, by effectively using economic leverages, makes enterprises perform the materials supply work satisfactorily; furthermore, it contributes to rationalizing enterprise management in accordance with the principle of socialist economic management on correctly implementing the independent economic accounting system.

Indeed, our materials supply system is a rational system organically combining the planned supply of materials with the contract method. It is a creative, superior materials supply system of our style that brings the initiative of enterprises into full play under the unified state guidance, making it possible to correctly solve—through the effective use of economic leverages—the question of planned materials supply and material incentive.

Today we are faced with the important task of correctly implementing the contract system and, by doing so, bring the superiority of our materials supply system into fuller play and further improve the system.

All economic functionaries, keeping it in mind that no other materials supply methods are better than the contract system set forth by our party, will wage positive struggles to implement the system even in a better way, and by doing so, improve enterprise management in accordance with the demand of the Taean work system and kindle a sweeping revolutionary upsurge in the socialist economic construction.

* Soldiers Join in 'Tongil Street' Construction

902C0263 Pyongyang MINJU CHOSON in Korean 21 Jun 90 p 1

[Article by Kim Yong-uk]

[Text] Construction workers and soldiers of the Korean People's Army, who are holding high our party's grand construction plans for the capital and are singleheartedly and vigorously launching construction of the Tongil Street, are accelerating with all their might construction of housing units and the primary road.

These construction workers and soldiers of the Korean People's Army, raising high the burning flame of innovation: The Speed of the 90's, are continuing a powerful offensive battle in the same spirit as disposing of over 700,000 square meters of soil .

The primary road of the Tongil Street is comprised of a large road stretching over 10 ri in length and 120 meters in width.

In the primary road of the Tongil Street literally lies the spirit of one of the people-oriented policies of our party, which does not spare anything to promote the welfare of the working masses.

Our party, taking into consideration demands for countless means of transportation, the size of a housing unit, and requirements for installing an underground network of technical facilities, decided to make the road 120 meters wide.

By having the primary road as wide as 120 meters, which forms the principal axis of the Tongil Street's ground plan, the Tongil Street bears the appearance of a flawless creation for ages to come as a street fulfilling the image of an urban construction design.

The width of the roadway portion of the primary road is 48 meters. Therefore, there will be room for a divider in the center and 12 cars to come and go simultaneously.

On both sides of the roadway are 18.5 meters of green space. In the green space, two rows of roadside trees will be planted, and streetlights will be installed. Also, the green space will be covered overall with grass, and beautiful flower gardens will be created here and there, along with bus stations.

Beyond the green space will be placed a 7.5 meter wide auxiliary road. Parking places have been set up for cars turning in and out of housing subdivisions to make extensive use of this road.

On the outside of the auxiliary road a pedestrian walkway 10 meters wide will be added. On the pedestrian walkway, streetlights will be installed and a row of roadside trees will be planted.

The center road gradually goes lower from the underpass of the Nakrong bridge to a fortified two-level crosssing. For connections with the primary road, a unique style of multi-level crossing ramps will be formed at every point of the access road.

On the primary road, nine underground crosswalks will be constructed for the convenience of the people.

In this fashion, the excellent modern primary road of the Tongil Street is being constructed with great speed under the wise leadership and profound graces of our party.

Comrade Kim Chong-Il, secretary and standing committee member of the Politburo of the Central Committee, pointed out:

"Only by doing excellent work on the construction and maintenance of the road will we be able to fully guarantee the increasing demand for transportation, accelerate economic construction, and better guarantee the convenience of life for the people."

The dear Comrade Kim Chong-il has realistically understood the current key points on the construction design of the Tongil Street, and has provided instruction on laying the foundation of the primary road in a short period of time.

Upholding high the lofty ideal of the party, construction workers and soldiers who are launching energetically the construction project hold burning devotion to the party and the Great Leader and move forward fiercely kindling the fire of speed battles.

The construction command post of the capital city has set lofty goals for each stage and has organized in detail political work to accomplish the goals consistently on a grand scale. In addition, in order to guarantee the roadbed and underground construction projects to the highest level, technical guidance and engineering guidance are intensified.

Soldiers of the People's Army embrace the rock-firm belief that "if the party is determined, we can do it", and from the very start they set forth courageous and grandiose goals and are pushing forward with lightning speed the roadbed construction project.

Soldier construction workers of the unit belonging to An Pil-tok have logically distributed bulldozer excavators and large vehicles, and are working every day on stripping the land ahead of schedule.

Combat soldiers of the first mobile construction brigade for the capital city operate at full capacity for each piece of wheeled equipment, and are disposing every day of approximately 20,000 tons of soil.

These workers have launched a strenuous transportation battle, with the hearts and the fighting spirit of the heroic construction workers who rose up every day for the postwar reconstruction to turn the revolutionary capital into a city of paradise, and they are making an average of 90 up to 120 trips a day.

Along with this, because of the brilliant battle continually waged by excavator operators an average of approximately 10,000 square meters of soil is being moved to a lowland every day.

In this way the grand road of the Tongil Street is undergoing a complete change evey moment by construction workers and soldiers who have embraced the will of the party deep in their hearts.

South Korea

Kim Il-song Returns to Pyongyang From PRC

SK1409101890 Seoul YONHAP in English 1014 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 14 (OANA-YONHAP)—North Korean leader Kim Il-song returned to Pyongyang on Thursday winding up a three-day clandestine trip to China, an informed South Korean Government source said Friday.

Kim stayed in Shenyang, a southeastern Chinese city where he met with Chinese Communist Party General Secretary Jiang Zemin, and returned to Pyongyang by a special train Thursday afternoon without dropping in Beijing, said the source who declined to be identified.

The source said the 78-year-old North Korean leader stayed in Shenyang's Youyuanbin Hotel for three days and went back directly to Pyongyang.

What Kim discussed with the Chinese leaders including Jiang is yet to be known, according to the source, but he might have discussed changing situation on the Korean peninsula, including Seoul's move for normalizing diplomatic ties with Moscow, inter-Korean prime ministers' talks last week in Seoul.

Kim and Chinese leaders might also have had discussions on changes in Seoul-Beijing relations and mutual concerns in connection with the 11th Asian Games that opens on Sept. 22 in the Chinese capital, the source said. He declined to elaborate further.

Editorial on Kim's Intentions

SK1309101790 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean 13 Sep 90 p 2

[Editorial: "Why Did Kim Il-song Go to China?"]

[Text] Once again, North Korean President Kim Il-song's sudden visit to China draws much extraordinary attention at home and abroad. According to a well-placed source, Kim went to Shenyang in Liaoning, China, on 11 September by train, had a series of secret talks with the highest-ranking Chinese leaders, including CPC general secretary Jiang Zemin, and then returned to Pyongyang on 13 September.

Kim Il-song's sudden visit to China generates a host of suppositions, as it was arranged at a time when the situation on the Korean peninsula and in its neighboring regions has become extremely sensitive. In particular, given its timing—when the establishment of diplomatic relations between Korea and the Soviet Union is in sight and when Korea and China are expected to improve their bilateral relations in the not-too-distant future, his visit to China must have been arranged hastily to emerge from the predicament North Korea finds itself in.

Some observers, attaching importance to the fact that his visit to China takes place shortly after Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze's visit to Pyongyang on 2 September, see it as possibly an effort to work out with China a strategy to cope with the imminent establishment of diplomatic relations between Korea and the Soviet Union.

Foreign Minister Shevardnadze reportedly brought a clear message to Pyongyang that the Soviet Union was going to establish diplomatic ties with South Korea. It seems certain that the foreign ministers of Korea and the Soviet Union will discuss a detailed time table on the establishment of diplomatic ties between Korea and the Soviet Union when they officially meet at the United Nations around 27 September.

What is more, the Soviet Union, which is devoting all its energy to rebuilding the economy, is now asking North Korea to pay all of its debts owed to the Soviet Union in hard currency. The Soviet Union seems to favor an improvement in relations with South Korea rather than with North Korea, a country which is more of a burden to the Soviet Union as it faces the immediate task of rebuilding its economy.

What about China? It will find the strengthening of its economic ties with South Korea inevitable following the Asian Games in Beijing, as part of an effort to bring its economic difficulties under control—a daunting and immediate task. A telling sign of this situation is the move between Korea and China toward opening trade offices in the capital cities of the two countries.

Even though it had to tightly close its doors to the outside world after the bloody riot in Tiananmen Square in June last year, China has begun showing a soft open-door attitude concerning the economy, to the point where it has allowed South Korean business firms to post advertisements on the streets, using the Asian Games in Beijing as an excuse. China seems to have realized that the introduction of a market-oriented economy is the best choice to feed its population of 1.1 billion.

The reality in the international arena has forced two of North Korea's traditional blood-tied allies to adapt themselves to the changes sweeping through the world, voluntarily or at another's will. The Kim Il-song regime in North Korea must have found its feet on fire amid such trends. North Korea seems to have reached the conclusion that its relations with the Soviet Union have soured beyond repair and that China is the only recourse.

In the eyes of North Korea, the most pressing issue it must check or frustrate is South Korea's unilateral admission into the United Nations during the world body's General Assembly this fall. North Korea's only hope is to rely on China's exercise of its veto right.

Roughly speaking, the above-mentioned seem to be the essence of the supposition about Kim Il-song's sudden visit to Shenyang. Instead of trying to keep the roaring waves of openness from penetrating its society by depending on strength borrowed from others, North Korea should try to build confidence with its fellow countrymen in the South through close economic cooperation at the earliest possible date and take the broad road leading to reunification.

PRC Has 'Nothing to State'

SK1409021790 Seoul YONHAP in English 0201 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Hong Kong, Sept. 14 (OANA-YONHAP)—China has neither denied nor confirmed reports that North Korean President Kim Il-song made a secret trip to China for talks with Chinese leaders, newspapers here said Friday.

Li Jinhua, spokesman for the Chinese Foreign Ministry, said Thursday that he has "nothing to state" on the reports, when pressed by reporters to make a comment on the dispatch first broken by YONHAP NEWS AGENCY in Seoul.

Yonhap, quoting a source, said Wednesday Kim arrived in Shenyang via train Monday for an unannounced three-day trip to meet with Communist Party General Secretary Jiang Zemin and other senior Chinese leaders.

North's Code Compared to National Security Act

SK1409085890 Seoul YONHAP in English 0849 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 14 (YONHAP)—North Korea is keeping 152,000 political prisoners at 12 concentration camps, says a book published here Friday by a private institute specialized in studying North Korean affairs.

The prisoners include former Prime Ministers Yi Kun-mo, Kim Chang-pong and Pak Kum-chol, Deputy Prime Ministers Hong Song-yong and Kim Kyong-yun, former Minister of State Security Kim Pyong-ha and former Director-General of the Counter-South Operations Office Ho Pong-hak.

The book, titled, "Truth of the North Korean Criminal Code," also contends that the North Korean criminal code stipulates much severer punishments for acts against Pyongyang's monolithic governing system than South Korea's National Security Act does for its violators. Northern violators are, in most cases, subject to capital punishment, confiscation of whole property and deprivation of suffrage, the book published by the Institute of North Korea Studies said.

North Korea has asserted that South Korea should abolish the National Security Act to pave the way for a smoother inter-Korean relation.

The new North Korean criminal code, in effect since 1975, is more comprehensive and abstract in defining the legal conditions for convicting the accused. For example, it punishes even foreigners who attempt to break diplomatic ties, for which the National Security Act has no provision, according to the book.

The North stipulates capital punishment and confiscation of whole property on acts of publishing, keeping or scattering reactionary publications and papers. The South's law stipulates a seven-year or shorter imprisonment to the acts of encouraging or praising anti-state organizations.

The South Korean criminal code can impose a 10-year service in prison for those who escaped to North Korea while northern violators are subject to death, coupled with whole property confiscation.

Kim Tae-chung on Inter-Korean Talks, Assembly

SK1409042390 Seoul YONHAP in English 0257 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 14 (OANA-YONHAP)—Opposition leader Kim Tae-chung has said he would visit North Korea if it is considered to contribute to holding inter-Korean summit talks and reconciliation between two parts of Korea.

Kim made the remarks in an exclusive interview with YONHAP News Agency, when asked whether he has any plan to visit the North as North Korean Prime Minister Yon Hyong-muk personally invited him to Pyongyang in his recent visit to Seoul for the inter-Korean high-level talks.

"After seeing the result of the upcoming inter-Korean prime ministers' meeting, and if deemed necessary, we will dispatch our party's delegation first to the North. And as for my visit, I will push it only when it contributes to both South and North in such things as inter-Korean reconciliation and holding summit talks," Kim, president of the main opposition Party for Peace and Democracy, said.

On the political deadlock caused by the opposition's boycott of parliament, Kim said his party would decide this month on whether to return to the National Assembly, which was convened early this week but now in adjournment waiting for the return of 78 members of opposition lawmakers.

Kim said at least two out of five demands should be met for his party to end the 2-month long walkout from the Assembly.

"The ruling party should accept our calls for a public declaration that it gives up the idea of a constitutional change to introduce the parliamentary cabinet system and full implementation of local autonomy," the 65-year-old opposition leader said.

His party's 70 lawmakers and splinter Democratic Party (DP) with 8 parliamentary seats submitted resignations in July protesting the ruling party's railroading of 26 bills through the Assembly.

"We are willing to give considerable flexibility to our demand for an early parliamentary election, and as for the issue of correcting the controversial bills which were unilaterally passed, we can discuss it through dialogue," said Kim in Thursday's interview.

Kim, however, made it clear his party would never return to the Assembly "as long as he stays in party presidency" if the "two minimum demands" are not satisfactorily met.

Asked if he would meet with President No Tae-u to break the political stalemate, he rebuffed the idea saying, "The talks will be meaningless unless our two demands are accepted."

On the unification of the oppositon forces comprising his party, the Democratic Party (DP) and dissident groups, Kim said he is not yet desperate in it as his party is waiting for a final decision from the DP.

Touching on growing calls that he should retreat to the political sidelines to refresh the political arena, he said he would continue to serve for the nation as long as his party and people need him.

No Urges Brotherhood With North in Asian Games

SK1409091490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0827 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 14 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u asked the South Korean athletes and delegates going to the Beijing Asian Games to show "spirit of fair play" and "warm brotherhood" to team members from North Korea.

Inviting the more than 750 athletes and officials to the presidential mansion Friday afternoon, No said this year's Asian Games will be held amid cheers and applause of 70 million South and North Koreans as well as the Chinese people watching the event. It will also touch the emotions of more than 2 million Korean residents in China, No said.

"Treat North Koreans with brotherly love during the games, and show us the South and North in union and cooperation," the president said. "Don't be overcome by competitiveness when faced with North Korean teams, but act in fair play and cheer for North Korea's success at the games," he said.

Caution Urged in Japanese Approach to Pyongyang

SK1409014190 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 14 Sep 90 p 6

[Editorial: "Tokyo Approach to Pyongyang"]

[Text] Whenever the Seoul government has taken the initiatives to improve relations with Pyongyang, Japan has usually attempted to take similar steps in its own way. Closely following the recent high-level talks between South and North Korea, the Japanese government has swiftly moved to approach the Pyongyang regime, as it has done in the past.

According to reports from Tokyo, former Japanese deputy prime minister Shin Kanemaru will lead a delegation comprising Diet members of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party and the main opposition Japan Socialist Party and visit Pyongyang Sept. 24-26 to discuss measures to normalize its relations with the Pyongyang regime.

Kanemaru's mission includes delivery of a message to North Korean President Kim Il-song from Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, expressing apology for Japan's wrongdoings against Korea during the 35 years of Japanese rule from 1910. Furthermore, the Japanese delegation will reach formal agreement on the establishment of liaison offices in Tokyo and Pyongyang.

As a whole, the Japanese moves to improve ties with North Korea are compatible with the Seoul government policy enunciated by President No Tae-u in his July 7, 1988 special declaration: To create an atmosphere conducive to a durable peace on the Korean peninsula, we are willing to cooperate with North Korea in its efforts to improve relations with countries friendly to us including the United States and Japan.

The purpose of the Seoul initiative is, as No explained, to bring an end to counterproductive diplomacy characterized by rivalry and confrontation between the two Koreas and to cooperate in inducing North Korea to make a positive contribution to the international community. In this context, the recent Japanese steps for Pyongyang should be by no means discouraged.

The Tokyo government may well take advantage of the fast-developing amicable ties between Seoul and Moscow and China, not to mention most East European countries that have already entered into formal diplomatic relationships with Seoul. It is quite natural that Seoul's major allies, the United States and Japan, attempt to take reciprocal steps toward the North in favor of easing tension on the Korean peninsula and achieving ultimately reunification.

In connection with the Japanese moves vis-a-vis Pyongyang, nevertheless, Tokyo needs to bear in mind the delicate situation and risk of untoward developments on the Korean peninsula, following on the recently resumed inter-Korean official dialogue. The precarious South-North premiers' talks could be ruptured at any time.

Insofar as North Korea holds fast to its belligerent strategy against the South and to its refusal to sign the anti-nuclear proliferation convention, any hasty approach to the Pyongyang regime by the Tokyo government ought to be refrained from. And Japan's policy to increase trade with the North should not include military goods.

At the same time, the proposed setup of liaison offices and Prime Minister Kaifu's apology to Pyongyang need to be reviewed from the viewpoint of international law, the 1965 Korea-Japan Diplomatic Normalization Treaty stipulating that the Tokyo government recognizes Seoul as the only legitimate government on the Korean peninsula.

It is hoped that the scheduled visit to Pyongyang of the Japanese delegation may serve the purpose of promoting its national interests, including the immediate scheme to seek the release of two seamen now detained in the North on spying charges, and at the same time to fulfill its pledge to help inter-Korean dialogue make good progress for their mutual benefits and the relaxation of tension on the Korean peninsula.

Japanese Official Comments

SK1409082690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0753 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 14 (OANA-YONHAP)—Some South Koreans may think Japan moves "too fast" toward North Korea but Japan is considering its ties with South Korea and the inter-Korean relations in handling its relations with North Korea, Yoshio Sakurauchi, speaker of Japan's lower house, said here Friday.

In a press conference at Kimpo International Airport, Sakurauchi said Japan welcomes the inter-Korean high-level talks in Seoul last week as it was attended by such high officials as prime ministers of both sides and is deemed conducive to peace and security not only on the Korean peninsula but in the world as a whole.

The speaker of the house of representatives came here for a four-day visit at the invitation of National Assembly Speaker Pak Chun-kyu, accompanied by lawmakers, Yoshiyuki Toya of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, Mikio Abe of the major opposition Japan Socialist Party, and Katsuo Torii of Komeito.

Sakurauchi will discuss ways of enhancing bilateral friendship and cooperation with Korean parliamentary leaders including Kim Yong-sam, executive chairman of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party, and Kim Tae-chung, president of the leading opposition Party for Peace and Democracy.

Soviet Expert Analyzes Inter-Korean Relations

SK1209122190 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 9 Sep 90 p 5

[Interview with (Vasiliy Mihev), deputy chief of the socialist countries of Asia section (?Economics of the World Socialist System Institute, Moscow), by Kim Chol, director of North Korean Department of CHOSON ILBO, in Seoul—date unknown]

[Text] [Reporter's note] After the North-South premiers' talks, I interviewed a Soviet scholar specializing in North Korean affairs, who served as a Soviet diplomat stationed in Pyongyang, on the subject of North-South relations and the Soviet interest in them. Mr. (Mihev), tall and handsome, is a Ph. D. in economics, served as first secretary of the Soviet Embassy in Pyongyang from 1978 to 1984, and now studies and watches the North Korean economy as deputy chief of a section in charge of socialist countries of Asia of the (?Economics of the World Socialist System Institute, Moscow) (IEWS).

Commenting on the recent North-South talks, which he happened to observe in Seoul, he said: There are still differences, but it was impressive that the high-level officials held talks with a smile. It is time that not only the United States and the Soviet Union, but also North and the South Korea had better talk than fight.

[Kim Chol] In the light of the relations of the two Germanies, don't you think that there will be a breakthrough in the inter-Korean relations when the ROK can use its superior economic power?

[(Mihev)] I fully agree. It is money that matters after all. However, what matters here is not the amount but how effectively the money is used. In order for this method to produce results, North Korea should change its economy from a central control economy to a market economy. North Korea, however, still adheres to a thorough centrally control economy.

[Kim] Then there is no hope, is there?

[(Mihev)] That is right, in that it depends entirely on North Korea's decision. However, in view of the trend of change in the surrounding situation, we can say that a change in North Korea is inevitable. North Korea is using the port of Nampo as a foreign trade base, but it shares far too small a place in the North Korean economy. The Soviet Union is sending North Korea a signal through joint ventures, urging it to open itself up. But this has produced little effect so far. To bring forth any change at all, the top policy makers should change their minds.

[Kim] Will Premier Yon Hyong-muk, ex-premier Kang Song-san, Vice Premier Kim Hwan, and other technocrats whom North Korea has trained not be different from the guerrilla generation, including Kim Il-song?

[(Mihev)] This is a difficult question to answer. In the ROK and even in the Soviet Union or any other society, there are both idealistic and practical men. This is applicable to North Korea as well. However, North Korea is in perfect order, at least on the surface. Therefore, we cannot definitely say yes to your question.

[Kim] No doubt, you will have China in mind, but why is the Soviet Union so impotent? Is the present condition of North Korea not an obstacle to the Soviet's new thought and new strategy?

[(Mihev)] The questioner should be aware of this. We did not involve ourselves in East European development. In the past we intervened, as in the case of Czechoslovakia and Afghanistan. However, Gorbachev has abolished the Brezhnev Doctrine, which gave the reason for intervention. By the same token, we cannot intervene in North Korea's internal affairs. Nonintervention is the new thought.

[Kim] It is true that you did not intervene in East European development, but would you say that you did not intervene politically and psychologically?

[(Mihev)] I would not say that we did not involve ourselves politically and psychologically, since we were implementing perestroyka. But we did not intervene directly, nor will we do so.

[Kim] Recently, the Soviet Union is reported to have demanded that North Korea pay in hard currency for the oil and weapons it purchases from the Soviet Union. Is this some sort of pressure on North Korea?

[(Mihev)] Anything but that. Purchase in hard currency was decided by the CEMA one year ago. The Soviet Union, therefore, is applying the general rule to North Korea.

[Kim] How would you explain the relationship between the ROK-USSR relations and the inter-Korean relations?

[(Mihev)] Please note one important difference. In the past, the Soviet Union directly connected the ROK-USSR relations with the progress of North-South dialogue. However, since February of this year, the Soviet Union has made it clear that the ROK-USSR relations should be based on the logical development of the relations themselves, though we will, of course, be pleased and support good progress of North-South dialogue and will be disappointed otherwise.

[Kim] What do you think of the ROK-USSR relations?

[(Mihev)] The ROK-USSR relations have developed through several stages. The greatest momentum was the Seoul Olympics. Three weeks ago, Shatalin, member of the Soviet Presidential Council in charge of economic affairs, appeared on television and was answering questions from the audience. Among the questions asked was, "Why are you publicizing capitalism? Can you scientifically explain why capitalism is better than socialism?" In reply, Shatalin said, "I have no time to scientifically explain it, but there is specific proof. You can compare the difference between North and South Korea."

I saw the ROK businessmen coming to the Soviet Union after the Olympics and being disappointed at the Soviet economy which is in a transitional period, and I advised them to think more of ways to help the Soviet Union reform itself rather than doing business. Then everything improved and an atmosphere for respecting each other economically and politically was even created. Speaking of mutual respect, I regret that a Japanese magazine reported that a Soviet judge was bribed by an ROK participant in the Tchaikovsky Music Competition.

[Kim] Is it true that the Soviet Union is playing an ROK card with regard to Japan?

[(Mihev)] There may have been people who thought that way in the Soviet Union before perestroyka. However, perestroyka is completely different. In short, perestroyka does not take advantage of, or seek conflict, but seeks reconciliation and compromise.

[Kim] What is the new strategy of the Soviet Union in Northeast Asia, according to its new thought? The Soviet Union is experiencing political and economic confusion, and despite perestroyka the Soviet Union is not likely to give up its national interest.

[(Mihev]) You said an important thing. Those in the Soviet military, in particular, are maintaining their interest in that area.

However, the military strength is no longer the only means to safeguard Soviet interests. Things economic and political are as important. I will define the new Soviet diplomacy based on perestroyka as follows. Politics in the past was said to be an art of potentiality. However, the perestroyka diplomacy aims to create something in which everyone feels he is a winner.

Foreign Minister Comments on UN Issue, Mideast

SK1409051490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0445 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 14 (YONHAP)—South Korea is likely to share the cost of Middle East defense as requested by the United States, but will have to consider the huge financial loss from the recent disaster in determining the scale of fund, Foreign Minister Choe Hochung said Friday.

"Inter-ministerial consultations are under way about the burden-sharing, taking into account international practices and security on the Korean peninsula, but a conclusion has yet to come. With the latest disaster, we need some more time to produce a conclusion."

A record-breaking downpour hit the South Korean capital of Seoul and other central parts of the nation earlier this week, claiming scores of lives and leaving hundreds of million won in property damage.

Turning to the issue of U.N. membership, the minister reiterated the long-standing government's position that South and North Korea should simultaneously join the United Nations as separate members.

"However, we will listen to the North's views in the working-level meeting on U.N. membership to be held on Sept. 18 upon their initiative, and will decide what to do after the meeting," he said, hinting that South Korea would not seek a U.N. membership alone in this year's U.N. General Assembly.

Describing the North's argument for a single membership for South and North Korea "unreasonable and unrealistic," Choe said the inter-Korean discussions about U.N. membership would "be effective in persuading China and the Soviet Union not to exercise their veto rights in the U.N. Security Council."

Asked about his meeting with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze at the United Nations, Choe said, "The meeting is an official one. However, the two countries have not yet fixed the schedule for establishment of diplomatic ties. We are discussing the agenda and date of the foreign ministers' talks through our missions in Moscow and the United Nations."

Meeting with reporters, the foreign minister also predicted he and his Chinese counterpart Qian Qichen may naturally contact each other if Qian attends the Asian foreign ministers' meeting to be held during this month's U.N. General assembly.

Touching on recent reports that Japan and North Korea will exchange liaison offices shortly, the minister said, "From what I have learned through diplomatic channels, I can tell that the two sides have not yet reached an agreement on the subject.

"The government is requesting Japan to persuade the North to drop its policy to unify (the Korean peninsula) by force, stop terrorist acts and abide by international agreements."

British Parliamentarian Arrives for Talks

SK1409020590 Seoul YONHAP in English 0142 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 14 (YONHAP)—South Korea ought to lower duties on British-produced whisky, Bernard Weatherill, speaker of the British House of Commmons, said upon his arrival in Seoul Thursday afternoon.

Weatherill said South Korea and Britain share basic view as export-oriented trading countries that barriers to free trade should be removed but that South Korean tariffs on the British alcoholic drink are too high.

Touching on the talks between South and North Korea, Weatherill expressed the hope that Seoul and Pyongyang will continue efforts to get closer to each other like the two Germanys did, saying Britain will give full support to such efforts.

Weatherill, who came here at the invitation of his Korean counterpart Pak Chun-kyu, will meet with President No Tae-u, Executive Chairman Kim Yong-sam of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party Kim Yong-sam and Kim Tae-chung, president of the opposition Party for Peace and Democracy Friday.

Weatherill is expected to convey President No the personal letter from British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

Speaks at National Assembly

SK1409091590 Seoul YONHAP in English 0722 GMT 14 Sep 90

['Excerpts' of speech given by British House of Commons Speaker Bernard Weatherhill at the National Assembly on 14 Sep]

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 14 (YONHAP)—British House of Commons Speaker Bernard Weatherill, delivering a speech at the National Assembly Friday, advised perseverance for lawmakers, given the nature of parliaments being free institutions first and efficient institions second.

"If this sometimes involves sitting through outrageous arguments, long-winded questions and tedious speeches, we must bear that burden bravely," Weatherill said under the theme of "parliamentary democracy," expounding Britain's parliamentary democracy development process and parliament management.

Weatherill flew into Seoul Thursday for a five-day visit at the invitation of his Korean counterpart Pak Chun-kyu.

The following are excerpts of Weatherill's speech.

"There is a warm relationship between our two countries: and I am happy to see that - particularly since your new Constitution came into force in 1988 - there are increasing contacts between us at the parliamentary as well as the governmental level.

"But we in the United Kingdom do at least have 700 years experience of trying to make the institution of parliament work throughout all the enormous economic, social and political changes that have taken place during those centuries. The one thing that experience teaches us is that Parliament is an amazingly adaptable institution.

"No greater responsibility rests on the shoulder of the speaker of a parliamentary assembly than his duty to guarantee all members of the assembly a fair hearing, however unpopular or provocative their views. It is always tempting for the majority party in a parliament to try to streamline procedures in the interests of efficient government: As parliamentarians, we should resist that tendency stoutly."

"A parliament which is never noisy or disputatious is, almost certainly, not worthy to be called a true parliament at all.

"We insist that the speakership should be the last public post in a political career, not just a step on the ladder. So members know that, while he remains in post, a speaker has no self interest and will not be tempted to favour one side or another in the hope of future reward or ministerial office."

"Parliaments are bound to reflect the societies which they serve."

"We in the House of Commons have been trying for more than 700 years to get it right. A lot of our constituents and even some of our MPs think we still have some way to go. You, in the Republic of Korea, have started out much more recently on the path of full parliamentary democracy. It is a difficult and often tedious and frustrating journey. With all my heart I wish you success in your efforts."

Kim Tae-chung's Role in Unified Opposition

902C0276A Seoul IRYO SINMUN in Korean
8 Jul 90 p 11

[Article by reporter Kim Ki-hong: "DJ's Hidden Intention Behind His Rush Toward Opposition Integration—He Aims To Take Over the Supreme Power for the Next Term Through Formation of a 'New Unified Party'"]

[Text] The drive for a unified opposition is entering a new phase. The PPD [Party for Peace and Democracy] president, once persistent in viewing the idea of opposition integration itself with reservation, has recently begun to make a number of merger proposals; and the dissident groups recently inaugurated a joint-front body to revitalize the opposition integration drive. All this indicates that depending on how the parties involved adjust their differences, the integration of the opposition forces may be achieved sooner than expected.

First, PPD President Kim seems to have arrived at the conclusion that opposition integration is the only means for resolving the political impasse by blocking the tyranny of the giant ruling party and thwarting the move to revise the constitution to provide for the cabinet form of government and that the integration is a factor which has something to do with his political standing and his bid for taking over power.

In May when the atmosphere of his party was disturbed over the signature collection campaign by some mavericks and a serious issue was made of his own "future," Kim Tae-chung, suppressing his frustration, made a stopgap promise to "discuss the matter fully in late June or early July, by which time the proposed leaders' talks will have been completed."

However, seeing that the leaders' talks virtually broke down and the DLP [Democratic Liberal Party], with "enough votes lined up for the possible revision of the constitution," began to show signs that it would launch a full scale drive for the revision of the constitution for the cabinet system, he came up with a concrete proposal for a tripartite merger between the PPD, the Democratic Party (DP), and dissident groups as the best antidote to this drive.

Originally, the official agenda as conceived by the PPD regarding the tripartite opposition integration was: issuing a joint statement on the tripartite merger of the PPD, the DP, and the dissident groups; forming a preparatory committee for the inauguration of a new party; and selecting persons for responsible organizational posts from among people with better chances of being returned in the election.

This agenda is part of what PPD President Kim Tae-chung was in the habit of calling "the plan in my mind" in his effort to calm the fever in his party for opposition integration. Specifically, according to general speculation, he will make a decision on the question of "power sharing" when the extraordinary session of the National Assembly comes to an end.

There are several complex reasons why PPD President Kim Tae-chung, after maintaining a wait and see attitude with the "key" to opposition tightly in his hand, began gradually to change his attitude in the wake of the rupture of the leaders' talks until now.

First, the position of President Kim and the PPD has strengthened relatively. This may be attributed to the fact that with the tyranny of the giant party beginning to become visible in the move within the DLP to revise the constitution for the cabinet system, the whole opposition camp has come to feel a sense of crisis with respect to this tyranny; and President Kim has naturally emerged as a counterweight.

In the current extraordinary session of the National Assembly, the PPD has thrown the ruling party into the defensive with various interpellations exposing things embarrassing to the ruling camp, and this has also contributed to enhancing the position of Kim Tae-chung and his party.

Another reason PPD President Kim came out with a flaming sword to push for opposition integration in person may be that by his own calculation, he saw in opposition integration his chances for taking over the reins of government for the next term. In other words, he regards opposition integration as the first step in his long-term strategy, his scenario envisaging that he first boosts the atmosphere by pointing out the necessity of fielding a single opposition presidential candidate in the process of tripartite integration and channels the rising mood toward enhancing his bid to take over government power.

Some time ago some journalists began to refer to Kim Tae-chung as "standing presidential candidate" despite his own denial, and this has something to do with his calculation mentioned above.

It was at the 18 June "meeting of 30 dissident leaders" that PPD President Kim expressed his view with regard to what people call the standing presidential candidate. One of the dissident figures present on that occasion said that Kim Tae-chung "did not use the words the standing presidential candidate specifically, but he implied them in substance in his remarks." The same source admitted that on that occasion Kim Tae-chung practically rehashed the main points of the "plan for a new party" which leaked out from the PPD directorate, calling for a party structure consisting of one party president who will represent the integrated opposition party, one senior supreme council member who will be in charge of party affairs, and five to seven supreme council members.

If this plan is identical with Kim Tae-chung's idea, the post of president of the "new party" will be reserved for him, he will fall back from the forefront of party management and all he has to do is stick to his symbolic position associated with his bid for "the supreme power" while waiting for his chance.

The main reason PPD President Kim was in a hurry to deal with the issues of the standing presidential candidate and the framework of the leadership structure of the new party is that in his mind he plans to array the unified opposition party as the giant opposition party to pit against the giant ruling party by structuring the opposition party with the offices of the president (standing presidential candidate), the representative supreme council member, and supreme council members so that it may correspond to the ruling party structure of the president, the representative supreme council member, and other supreme council members. Needless to say, if this scheme successfully materializes, the formula that the leader of the ruling camp equals the president, and the leader of the opposition camp equals the president of the unified opposition party will become possible.

On the other hand, the dissident groups have been active in pushing for opposition integration by inaugurating the "Congress for the Promotion and Facilitation of a Pan-Democratic Unified Political Party To Take Over Power" (Tongchuhoe), and attention is focused on the integration plan which these groups are expected to come up with, and which will have something in common with the Kim Tae-chung formula.

Originally, the dissident groups advanced the proposal that Kim Tae-chung become a permanent advisor to the new party rather than its president and retire from the forefront of party management. But in consideration of his recently enhanced position, they have changed their position and expressed their readiness to go along with the PPD's tripartite merger plan.

Particularly, important Tongchuhoe members—such as Yi Pu-song and Ko Yong-ku, both of whom bolted the Committee To Promote Democratic Union for the Formation of a Democratic Party (Minyonchu), and Kim Kwan-sok and Rev Pak Hyong-ku of the dissident signature group, and Rev Chi Son of the National Democratic Alliance of Korea (Chonminnyon)—are all "pro-Kim Tae-chung" now that the condition for opposition integration is clearly more in favor of Kim Tae-chung.

In addition to Tongchuhoe, which will serve as the entrance for dissident figures to enter the political arena, the "Conference on Crisis" [Pisangsiguk hoeui], the joint-front organization of the PPD, the DP, and the dissident groups, is emerging as an object of interest. Reportedly, the Conference on Crisis is participated in by activist groups such as Chonminnyon, the National Teachers Union, and the National Council of College Representatives (Chondaehyop), and it has its raison d'etat as an anti-DLP amalgamation along with Tongchuhoe, whose goals are political.

On the question of "power sharing," which remained the most delicate issue for the three parties to the proposed opposition integration, the PPD, the DP, and the dissident groups are also showing a flexible attitude, brightening the prospect for its solution.

For this reason, by the time Kim Tae-chung comes up with his "final plan," it is expected that the question of power sharing will have been solved. The opposition integration plan as leaked out by the PPD directorate prefers the "inauguration of a new party" to a merger through combination. Accordingly, attention is paid more to how the "apportionment of posts" will be carried out with regard to the posts of president, representative supreme council member, and other supreme council members than to the rates of shares per se.

There is a rumor in some quarters that under the combination of Kim Tae-chung as president and Kim Kwan-sok as representative supreme council member, the posts of five to seven supreme council members will be apportioned to the PPD, the Democratic Party, and the dissident groups at the ratio of 2:2:1.

The question remains how the DP will respond to this plan presented by the PPD. Dissident leaders are understood to have been persuaded and have softened their attitude through their direct and indirect talks with PPD President Kim Tae-chung. But it is hard to expect that the DP will so easily go along with this plan, into which his bid for the presidency is factored, as indicated by the rumor that he will be given the position virtually as the "standing presidential candidate." In particular, No Mu-hyon, Yi Chol, Chang Sok-hwa of the DP signature group, using their popularity as a weapon, are still holding fast to their argument that "Kim Tae-chung should be excluded from a unified opposition party." Accordingly, it is speculated that even if DP President Yi Ki-taek expresses a flexible stand, the DP would not so easily accept the PPD "plan for a new party" as a formal DP stand.

At any rate there is no room for doubt that the real ultimate goal of opposition integration is to cope with the national referendum on the revision of the constitution for the cabinet system if and when such referendum takes place. This is because the question of opposition integration, a complex and difficult political issue, cannot be solved by the simplistic theory that "integration is a necessity." Nevertheless we cannot but point out that it is not clear whether PPD President Kim will be able to channel the aforementioned series of moves toward the realization of his bid for "the supreme power for the next term," as well as how the mountain of difficult problems piled up so far will be resolved.

Two Defense Budget Proposals Passed to No

SK1409011590 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 14 Sep 90 p 6

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Yi Sung-yun yesterday reported to President No Tae-u on the national budget plan for 1991 to seek No's final decision on the highly controversial issue of defense spending.

Yi reportedly presented to No two different increase rates for defense expenditures so that No can choose one, as a way of putting an end to raging controversy over the increased rate of military spending.

One of the two proposals was about 13-percent growth and the other one slightly higher, sources close to Yi said yesterday.

The sources at the Economic Planning Board [EPB] said that he expected No to opt for the lower rates of defense spending expansion in view of various situations in and outside the country.

If the 13-percent increase rate is adopted, the 1991 defense spending will reach 7,770 billion won (about $11 billion). This year's defense budget is 6,887 billion won (roughly $9.6 billion).

In that case, the EPB sources said, the portion of defense budget in total national budget will drop from 30.4 percent of this year to 28.6 percent in 1991.

Next year's total national budget, including both general and special accounts, will be around 40 trillion won, up 21 percent from this year.

General accounts will be around 27.2 trillion won, about 20 percent increase from this year, and special accounts about 13 trillion won.

The special account will include the newly-created "local government transfer account" which will be scaled at about 2 trillion won, the sources said.

Yi also recommended to No two different increase rates for wages of government servants, another issue of controversy.

The two different rates are around 12 percent, the EPB sources said.

Defense Ministry and the Government Administration Ministry have demanded sharp increases in the military budget and government servants' pay, respectively, but the budget-setting agency, the EPB, have strongly resisted their demands, citing high inflation.

Professors Oppose Agricultural Market Opening

SK1409090990 Seoul YONHAP in English 0811 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 14 (YONHAP)—A group of professors warned Friday that the South Korean agriculture will be "dismantled" if the Uruguay Round of multilateral negotiations on the agricultural sector settled in the way they now are being handled and South Korea accepts the results.

In a news conference, Prof. Pyon Hyong-yun of Seoul National University and ten others also urged the government to stop its policy of opening the Korean agricultural market and massively invest in the agricultural sector.

"If the agriculture is dismantled," the professors said, "the Korean people's staple foods will be at the mercy of giant grain dealers of the United States and other exporting countries."

The professor group, headed by Pyon is one of the nation's scientist and researcher groups that recently mushroomed to defend the domestic agricultural society "from being devastated by the invasion of the so-called 'UR negotiations.'"

They also proposed that farmers, workers, consumers, scholars and journalists jointly mount a pan-national movement to collect signatures against the Uruguay Round negotiations and agricultural market opening, while denouncing the government for the alleged inaction to cope with the situation arising from the results of negotiations which are scheduled to be concluded by the end of this year.

Apart from the proposed signature-campaign, a research institute on the Korean agricultural and fishery societies and the Council of Professors for Social Democratization, a nationwide organization of professors, jointly collected 3,276 signatures from 2,400 professors, 349 instructors and 527 researchers across the nation in a campaign launched since Aug. 23.

Government To Increase Supplies, Control Prices

SK1409094290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0936 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 14 (YONHAP)—The government plans to sharply increase the supply of 20 major agricultural and livestock products to stabilize their prices around the Chusok (harvest full moon festival) holiday which falls on Oct. 3.

It will also encourage Hanil Cement Co. and Tongyang Cement Co. to increase their production to ease cement shortages stemming from the suspension of operation at some flood-stricken cement companies.

Part of the production facilities at three cement companies—Ssangyong, Asia and Sungshin—were inundated causing a production loss of 26,000 tons a day.

It will also facilitate transportation of vegetables to the Seoul metropolitan area from southern provinces which were not affected by the flood.

The products whose prices would be subject to government supervision include rice, barley, bean, beef, pork, apple, whiskey, and wine.

To stabilize rice prices, the government will increase the release of the government-stockpiled rice from 76,000 bags a day to 85,000 bags. The release of beef will be expanded from 510 tons, including 225 tons of imported beef, to 974 tons a day, including 450 tons of imported beef.

The government plan also calls for an increase in the supply of yellow corbina, a key item for Chusok table, to 110 tons a day from 30 tons at present by importing the fish from China.

Distribution of alaska pollack will be upgraded to 1,016 tons from 400 tons while that of apple will rise from 270 tons to 900 tons.

In addition, the government will crack down on unfair transactions, such as cornering and manipulating prices.

Hospital Promotes Medical Exchange With Soviets

SK1409100290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0942 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 14 (OANA-YONHAP)—Two children from the Soviet Union were flown to Seoul Friday for treatment for leukemia at Yonsei University's Severance Hospital in Seoul.

Janat Sisenov, an eight-year-old boy, and another five-year-old girl Marian Sueu Saliev, both from Kazakh Republic, were admitted to the pediatrics department, a hospital spokesman said.

Prof. Kim Kil-yong at the hospital will lead the children's medical team, and Severance will bear the entire cost during the three-month treatment, the spokesman said.

Dr. Im Yung-eui, director of Hyesong Hospital in Seoul, arranged for the children to come to South Korea after seeing them during his visit to the Soviet Union last year.

Officials at the Korean Hospital Association said they are hopeful that this will serve to promote future medical cooperation between the two countries.

Yonsei University is also to propose sending Korean patients to the Soviet Union for treatment in fields which the communist country has advanced information, such as marrow transplant.

Hospital officials said they are planning to have the children's doctor from the Soviet Union stay at Severance Hospital for exchange of information on leukemia treatment.

* Pak Chol-on's Political Career Examined

WA0709143590 Seoul IRYO SINMUN in Korean 8 Jul 90 p 4

[By reporter Yi Yun-sam]

[Text] Pak Chol-on, former first state minister, is no longer at the center of political power. His once powerful northern policy is now managed by the Chongwadae secretariate, and the leadership of the old DJP [Democratic Justice Party] faction of the DLP [Democratic Liberal Party] passed to a group made up of Pak Tae-chun, Pak Chun-pyong and Kim Yun-hwan. Thus, speculation that "Pak's march to the top" is finished continues to be of interest in many political sectors.

Since he resigned as first minister of state, Pak has stated that "this time will be an energizing period," and has used phrases such as "thoughts of winter nights" to hint that he will return to the center of the political arena when the time is right.

However, Kim Young-sam and his faction have responded coldly to Pak's intention of a "quick comeback," and the Kim Chong-pil faction, along with the non-mainstream DLP members, has showed they are uncomfortable with the idea, stating, "for the time being, Pak needs to stay quietly in the background."

Around 17 May, the day Pak returned from the United States, there was talk that he would be appointed to serve on the DLP Executive Board. Not only the Kim Yong-sam faction, but also the Kim Chong-pil faction expressed disapproval. First Minister of State Kim Yun-hwan, who was guilty of mentioning Pak's possible appointment to the DLP Executive Board, quickly conveyed the Kim Yong-sam faction's disapproval by saying, "Kim Yong-sam seemed unhappy with the idea." Also Kim Chong-pil and Kim Tong-yong, DLP floor leader and a member of the Kim Yong-sam faction, expressed their disapproval immediately by stating "How can it even be considered?" and "How will the people feel about it?"

Furthermore, former DJP senior members, who were pushed aside by Pak when he took over the leadership role of the DJP faction after the DLP was formed, and others who have an uncomfortable relationship with him, began to show their agitation with having Pak back on the political stage. This could bring about an unnecessary storm, especially now that the old DJP faction is getting along well under Pak Tae-chun's leadership.

In other words, Pak's "comeback" to the DLP leadership role and a government post is not as easy as one might think because there are more than a few obstacles. Although President No's decision counts the most, the president cannot make the decision without Kim Yong-sam's blessing just as he cannot ignore the other factions' feelings.

Among other things that Minister Pak has to overcome before he makes a comeback, is that there are many groups who dislike Pak and watch his every move, and they are increasing their influence to cause enough trouble, if necessary, to discredit Pak and keep him from entering the political arena again.

One good example of this is Pak's northern policy is now in the hands of the Chongwadae's SK-group (Seoul/Kyonggi-group). Political observers are watching this politically delicate power shift with great interest and consider it as a part of the changing political trend surrounding Pak.

The Seoul media unanimously credited Pak as the man who arranged the ROK-USSR summit. According to media reports at that time, there was a rumor that while Pak was in Japan, he met with a key USSR KGB agent in Hakone. Moreover, according to the rumor, Yom Ton-chae and Kang Kun-taek, two key northern policy working-level officers, accompanied Pak to the Hakone meeting. The media, based on that rumor, reported that Pak was the chief architect of the successful ROK-USSR summit. But, angry response to this media speculation came from no other than the Chongwadae's new northern policy team, and special assistant to the president for foreign and security affairs, Kim Chung-hui, who also denied any direct role by Pak in the summit.

Of couse there were doubts about the Chongwadae's denial. Some interpreted it as a means to protect Pak's "on-going secret envoy role," "to stop the DLP's factional fighting," and also to deny the "Pak's Chongwadae connection" rumor.

For now, most everyone is convinced that Pak had no direct or behind-the-scenes role in bringing about the No-Gorbachev summit. Furthermore, there is convincing talk that hidden behind Pak and Pak's TK-group (Taegu/Kyongbuk group), the real workers of the northern policy were today's SK-group, not the TK-group.

In other words, the Chongwadae special assistant, Kim Chung-hui and his aide, Min Pyong-sok; Moscow Consul General Kong No-yong; and UN Ambassador Hyon Hong-chu, who are all graduates of Seoul's Kyonggi High School, are the key people who should get credit for the summit.

The emergence of Ambassador Hyon is especially interesting. It is ironic that although Hyon and Pak are Seoul National University classmates and both have similar work experience—they were prosecuting officers and worked for the Agency for National Security Planning [NSP] during the Fifth Republic, etc.—Hyon was denied opportunities because of Pak. Some political sectors believe this is because Hyon went to the same high school as Yi Chong-chan and because he worked for the NSP with Pak.

Recently, at the heart of the international stage, Ambassador Hyon demonstrated his confidence in executing the northern policy, which the media interpreted as telling Pak that he [Hyon] too can effectively work the northern policy.

Another interesting point is that in the Chongwadae there still is a network based on many of Pak's hometown, school and work connections, yet the chief of the northern policy team, No Chae-pong, remains an outsider. President No met Secretary No Chae-pong during the presidential election campaign. Then presidential candidate No frequently sought advice from Yi Yong-hui, a former minister of the Unification Board and Secretary No's teacher.

Unlike members from the Presidential Inauguration Committee, these new main stream Chongwadae workers have no special ties with Pak and could not care less about him. This new breed of No confidants are firm about who gets the credit for the northern policy successes, especially when it can be used as a powerful political tool to gain the "next power." To them it belongs only to President No, no one else.

"The success of the No-Gorbachev summit has nothing to do with former Minister Pak's travel" was a statement issued by Presidential Special Assistant Kim Chung-hui on 1 June. It can be seen that the Chongwadae is making the point that President No was the one who succeeded in bringing about the summit, and he is the only one who currently holds power. In other words, it can be interpreted that this "absolutely golden opportunity" to seal off speculation about who has real power will not be wasted.

Also noteworthy is that the guilty party who spread the rumor that "Pak attended the Pyongyang Youth Festival" to reveal Pak's secret diplomacy, and put a dent in his political career, is known to be closely connected to the Chongwadae.

Another factor which keeps Pak from rising both in the DLP and the government is the collapse of the early constitutional revision to adopt a parliamentary cabinet system, which was promoted by Pak and his people. The political trend is slowly moving toward "gradual progresssive constitutional revision."

Pak and his people pushed hard until a short while ago for the early constitutional revision. Their point, known to others, was that in order to prevent the collapse of the constitutional revision line (199 seats), which comes with a no majority power system, and secure the election for the 14th National Assembly, early revision was neccessary.

However, President No stated, "there is no time this year to revise the constitution since I have a big task to bring political and economic stability to the country, which I promised the people," indicating that there will not be a constitutional revision before the year's end. Although some interpret this statement as a masquerade for a "behind-the-scenes push for the parliamentary system," the majority believe it is a "strategic retreat to prepare for the constitutional revision in 1992 for a parliamentary cabinet system." According to the majority of believers, gradual progressive constitutional revision is becoming the DLP's main policy.

In that case, chances are the revision issue will be passed to next year's annual party caucus. As Pak's early revision issue is moved back, his chance to come back to the political scene will also be pushed back.

Despite Pak's denials of "never happened," and "our relationship is not like that," there is a persistent rumor that "President No refused to meet Pak." So, some political sectors insist that this rumor and the "collapse of the early constitutional revision" are closely tied.

Pak claims that currently he is not a believer in a "constitutional revision before the end of year" or a "push through the revision." Pak repeatedly stressed that his stand for "law and order must come from the people's approval, thus constitutional revision cannot be realized without the opposition and the people's support."

Although Pak's chances of making a comeback in the political arena in the near future depend on his overcoming many obstacles, no one thinks that he is "completely out of the picture." The reason is that Pak was a key man in the birth of the Sixth Republic, and he still has fingers in the northern policy.

Pak was known as the "real power behind the scenes," and seemed to have even handled President No's political fund. Considering these factors, many believe that Pak's "forward march" will probably continue.

In support of this theory, individuals who have been helping Pak still remain in powerful positions. And the recently established Chongwadae's Special Investgation Team, which is hitting the government, political sectors and financial industries hard, is similar to Pak's "Sixth Republic's second phase reform" idea. This too supports the theory that Pak is not completely out of the picture.

Pak's close relationship with former prosecutor Chong Ku-yong, who is the chief of the Special Investgation Team, is well known, and Kim Yong-il, presidential secretary for civil affairs is a Kyongbuk High School classmate.

Also, So Tong-kwon, the director of the NSP, known as the most powerful organization filled with information and with the capability to gather information, is a graduate of Kyongbuk High School, and Pak and So's relationship is known to be very close.

In 1986, Pak, then special assistant to the NSP director, rose to a grade equal to district court prosecutor jumping 7-8 years. It is a well-known fact that the prosecutor general at that time was So Tong-kwon. So Tong-kwon is a member of Kyongbuk High School class of 1933 and Pak is a member of the class of 1941. Pak's classmate, Son Chin-kon, is a special assistant to the NSP director, and Pak maintains a close relationship with the NSP's northern policy key workers, such as Yom Ton-chae and Kang Kun-taek.

The fact that the TK-group members hold many key posts in the financial and industrial world is not news. There are seven economists in the government, and the leaders in the financial and industrial sectors are too numerous to count.

The members of the so called "Wolgyesu Club," known as Pak's division, occupy many key posts in the DLP and are waiting for Pak's return. The key members of the Wolgyesu Club are Na Chang-chu, Yi Kung-kyu, Kang Chae-sop, Kim Chong-kil, Yi Sang-hui, Yi Chae-hwang, Pak Sung-chae, Sin Yong-sun, etc. Political heavyweight lawmakers Chong Tong-song and Chong Chang-hwa are also members of the club.

Recently Representive Na Chang-chu published a book titled "Politics, Humor and Wits ...," which was read by Pak. Many political observers believe that such activity is a part of making Pak into a political leader.

Besides these people, many current political big shots securely stand behind Pak.

However, Pak's security blanket still seems to be President No himself. President No's faith in Pak was so strong it took a week to make a decision to replace Pak when Kim Yong-sam and Pak's dispute upset and divided the DLP, and hurt the government. Pak's confidence in his relationship with the president is clearly revealed through his statement made while the disputes were going on, "if Mr. Kim considers President No and myself as his enemy...," making himself equal to the president.

In conclusion, the general opinion of political observers is that Pak's political comeback is just a matter of time. Some sectors calculate Pak's comeback will take place during a period of major policy changes such as the constitutional revision, and changing the relationship with the North, etc. Probably, some observers predict, because of the current do-nothing period, and Kim Yong-sam and Kim Chong-pil factions' defiance, Pak's influence will not be as strong as it once was.

The Cabinet reshuffle in the fall or next spring, when the decision about the constitutional revision should be made, are the predicted time frames for Pak's return. However, the focus is on March because of a recent remark made by Pak that he "does not wish to return to politics until next March," thus any political movement will be monitored very closely.

Burma

Editorial Views NLD Arrests, Notes Tensions

BK0809020690 Bangkok THE NATION in English 8 Sep 90 p A8

[Editorial: "Rising Tensions in Burma"]

[Text] The arrest of two senior members of the National League for Democracy [NLD] in Rangoon on Thursday night was apparently timed to disrupt the NLD-led movement demanding a handover of power to elected representatives of the people. Since the much-publicized general election in May, the Burmese military regime has reneged on its pledge to relinquish power and made up numerous excuses for continuing to rule the country with an iron fist.

Now the Burmese military is accusing NLD acting-leader Kyi Maung, 71, and party secretary Chit Kaing, 72, of "handing over classified state secret documents to unauthorized persons." No details were available. But it was clear the Burmese military intended to cripple the NLD, which won 382 of the 485 seats contested in the May election—nearly 80 percent. The NLD managed to pull off this amazing victory even though its charismatic secretary general Aung San Suu Kyi had been under house arrest since July 1989.

The NLD's victory was widely read as a denouncement of the so-called State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC), set up after the bloody coup on Sept 18, 1988. But SLORC simply ignored the verdict of the people and tried to silence political dissent with martial law and brute force. Protests against the dictatorship and prodemocracy demonstrations are taken as "evidence" of political subversion by enemies of the state and as justification for the military's stance in favour of a very gradual, vague transition to civilian control of the government.

SLORC has rejected the NLD's proposals to promulgate a provisional constitution and to set up an NLD-led provisional government. The NLD acting-leader set September as the deadline for the Burmese military regime to hand over power before the NLD proceeded to call a parliamentary assembly of all the elected representatives to form a provisional government itself. The arrest of Kyi Maung, a moderate ex-military officer, dealt a severe below to the NLD's plan as he is a key coordinator pulling various factions in the NLD together.

SLORC leaders, including Prime Minister Gen [General] Saw Maung, have also threatened drastic responses to anyone trying to push for the formation of a provisional government. Yet they have failed to clarify how and under what circumstances they intend to hand over power to a civilian government.

During the last three months, the Burmese military checked records of campaign spending of the elected representatives and investigated complaints of wrongdoing against them. Now it is reportedly preparing to hold a national convention of all nationalities in the Burmese union to set the conceptual framework for a new constitution. After that the elected representatives will begin their parliamentary meeting to draft the constitution.

The draft constitution, if approved by SLORC, will be publicized to ensure public understanding before a nationwide referendum is called to give people the opportunity to vote on it. The entire process could take years.

What will happen after the referendum is still anybody's guess. Should a majority vote reject the draft constitution, then a new one will have to be produced. Even if it is approved, it doesn't necessarily mean the Burmese military will relinquish power right afterwards. It is possible that SLORC will call another general election to select representatives under the new constitution.

The clearest aspect of this vague proposal is that the SLORC is making a mockery of its pledge to hand over power to an elected government. SLORC is only fooling itself that this is the most acceptable and the only way to maintaining national unity and reviving democracy. By arresting the NLD acting-leader, SLORC has practically challenged the entire nation of 38 million to a showdown if they want democracy any time soon. And the SLORC leaders must be held fully responsible for any bloodshed that will follow.

Exiled Monks Urge Probe Into Deaths at Rally

BK0809015890 Bangkok THE NATION in English 8 Sep 90 p A3

[Text] Exiled Burmese Buddhist monks have urged their country's Sangha Supreme Council to call for an official investigation over the deaths of two monks killed in a demonstration early last month in Mandalay.

In a recent interview at a border town west of Bangkok, the leading monks of the All Burma Young Monks Union and the Overseas Mon Young Monks Union urged the Council, the highest Buddhist administrative body in Burma, to raise the case with the Burmese junta. They urged the Council to declare its independence and denounce the military if the Rangoon rulers refused the request.

Western diplomats quoted eyewitness as saying that the Burmese troops on Aug 8 opened fire on some 5,000 people to disperse them from a public march they held to commemorate the second anniversary of a massive popular uprising. Two Buddhist monks and two students were reportedly shot dead during the peaceful rally in Mandalay, a former capital about 600 kilometres north of Rangoon.

The Council should hold talks with the junta generals, who seized the power after the uprising in a coup d'etat in September 1988, and urge them to quickly transfer the executive authority to elected civilian representatives, said Ramanya Kelasa, chairman of the Overseas Mon Young Monks Union.

Ramanya Kelasa told THE NATION that he initially did not want to see monks challenge administrative power, but since the Mandalay incident has not received fair legal treatment, he wanted the Council to act. The monk urged the Sangha Council to take into consideration that the junta had violated Buddhist doctrine by killing unarmed people. An earlier attempt by a group of Mandalay monks who sent a letter to the Council and to the junta asking for a probe into the killing failed to produce results, he said.

He said he learnt that the people inside Burma have plans to demonstrate against the regime's insistence to hold on to power, and expressed fears of more violence.

Buddhist monks in Burma have been known for their active involvement in past domestic political affairs. Monks worked with students in spearheading the 1988 pro-democracy uprising. Currently there are about 300,000 monks in Burma, of which 100,000 are considered young monks.

The All Burma Young Monks Union and the Overseas Mon Young Monks Union have held several peaceful protests during the past months in front of the Burmese Embassy in Bangkok. About 150 Buddhist monks fled to the Thai-Burmese border after the coup in 1988.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Brunei

'Senior' Official Welcomes Cambodia Accord

BK1209094990 Hong Kong AFP in English 0859 GMT 12 Sep 90

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Sept 12 (AFP)—Brunei Wednesday welcomed the conclusion of Cambodian peace talks in Jakarta where warring Cambodian factions Monday accepted a U.N.-brokered peace plan. A senior Foreign Ministry official said that Brunei welcomed the successful conclusion of the meeting as outlined in a joint-statement released at the end of the talks.

The plan will give the United Nations a major role in administering Cambodia, supervising a ceasefire and organising elections to end the nearly 12-year-old conflict. As a first step towards implementing the plan, Cambodia's four warring factions agreed to set up a 12-member Supreme National Council to embody Cambodian sovereignty and transfer wide executive powers to a transitional U.N. body.

"We view the acceptance of the framework and the formation of the SNC by the four parties as a vital step for a complete settlement in Cambodia," the official in Bandar Seri Begawan said in a telephone interview. "Our position now is to urge all parties concerned to expedite further the peace process," he said.

The warring factions are the Vietnam-installed Phnom Penh government and a tripartite guerrilla alliance grouping loyalists of former monarch Prince Norodom Sihanouk, nationalists led by former Premier Son Sann and the Chinese-backed Marxist Khmer Rouge.

Brunei is a member of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) along with Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand, which has favoured the non-communist elements in the guerrilla coalition.

Malaysia

Foreign Minister Welcomes Cambodian Accord

BK1309135490 Hong Kong AFP in English 1338 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Sept 13 (AFP)—Malaysia Thursday welcomed the agreement this week among Cambodia's warring factions to a U.N.-brokered peace plan aimed at ending the nearly 12-year-old war. Foreign Minister Abu Hassan Omar said in a statement that Malaysia welcomed the agreement Monday in Jakarta to a plan giving the U.N. a major role in administering Cambodia, supervising a cease-fire and organising elections.

The four factions—the Vietnam-installed Phnom Penh government and guerrilla alliance grouping the Marxist Khmer Rouge with followers of former monarch Prince Norodom Sihanouk and former premier Son Sann—also agreed to form a 12-member Supreme National Council (SNC).

"Malaysia hopes that the Cambodian parties, in agreeing to accept the U.N. plan and ... form the SNC will finally put an early end to the sufferings of the Cambodians and the destruction in the country," Mr. Abu Hassan said. "To achieve the goal of an early political settlement, I urge the Cambodian parties to convene as soon as possible the first meeting of SNC," he added. Malaysia hopes Prince Sihanouk will assume the SNC chairmanship soon, he said.

"Malaysia stands ready to contribute in any way possible to an early political settlement of the Cambodian problem and also look forward to the Cambodian joining the community of Southeast Asian nations in a post settlement era," he said.

Malaysia is a member of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) along with Brunei, Indonesia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand, which has favoured the non-communist elements in the guerrilla coalition.

AFP Reports Mahathir Offers Help in Cambodia

BK1409123890 Hong Kong AFP in English 1211 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Sept 14 (AFP)—Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad said Friday that Malaysia was prepared to help police a cease-fire in Cambodia following agreement by Cambodia's warring factions on a U.N. peace plan. "If requested, we are willing to join any peace-keeping force," Dr. Mahathir told reporters on his return here from a three-day visit to South Korea. He described the peace agreement as a "very positive development."

The four factions involved in the nearly 12-year-old Cambodian conflict met in Jakarta earlier this week and agreed to set up a 12-member Supreme National Council (SNC) which will authorise an interim U.N. body to govern Cambodia, supervise a cease-fire and organise free elections.

Dr. Mahathir said the SNC should meet as soon as possible to enable it to take Cambodia's seat at the United Nations. The seat is now held by a tripartite guerrilla coalition led by Prince Norodom Sihanouk. The coalition, dominated by the Khmer Rouge, has been battling the Phnom Penh government installed by Vietnam in 1979.

Commentary on Oil Production, Food to Jordan

BK0709100990 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 7 Sep 90

[Station Commentary]

[Text] Malaysia has indicated a positive response to the requests from two more developing countries for a supply of petroleum. Pakistan and Bangladesh have asked for a few million tons of Malaysian crude over a 12-month period from November this year. The new orders come out because of the shortage of supplies from the Middle East as a result of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and subsequent developments. Malaysia has earlier agreed to supply the Philippines and India the crude oil on their requests.

The national oil company, Petronas, had before then been producing 595,000 barrels per day. The Philippines' and India's requests led to an increase in daily output by 10,000 barrels to 605,000 barrels per day. Malaysia has a maximum production capacity of 650,000 barrels per day.

Petronas will study the fresh requests from Pakistan and Bangladesh before deciding on quantum of further increase in her production. As Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed says, Malaysia does not want to see the economies of countries, especially the developing ones that do not produce oil affected by the hike in oil prices. Malaysia is concerned over recession shaping in such countries. On the other hand, Malaysia would like to work closely with other developing countries to help reduce inflationary problem. Though Malaysia stands to gain substantially from the increase in the price of oil and in increasing her supplies to important countries, she will raise her crude oil production only to the level that will help to meet the demand of those countries.

In a parallel development that has arisen from the Gulf crisis, Malaysia has decided to send $100,000 worth of food supplies to Jordan. Jordan is faced with a massive influx of refugees who have crossed the Iraqi and Kuwaiti borders since Iraq's invasion and annexation of Kuwait. Jordan has no alternative but to seek the help of foreign governments to send food items to feed the hundreds of thousands of refugees who have fled to their territory. West Germany, a relief organization, [word indistinct], have responded to Jordan's call.

Malaysia is believed to be one of the first among developing nations to extend its help in the form of food supplies. Jordan has asked for sugar, rice, powdered milk, wheat flour, vegetable oil, canned meat and fish, cheese and jam. Malaysia's Foreign Ministry is presently studying the details of their request so as to determine the type of foodstuffs Malaysia will be able to supply Jordan with. Malaysia's action on this and other situations of a similar nature have always been guided by her concern for people faced by anguish and misery brought about through no fault of their own. The Malaysian Government is reminded of the plight of its own citizens who was caught in the middle as a result of the Iraqi invasion. It also remembers its gratitude for the cooperation extended by the Jordanian Government in helping all the stranded Malaysians to return home safely and to loved ones. The decision to send food supplies is essential and genuine gesture on the part of the Malaysian Government to demonstrate its understanding of the plight of those people in the same situation. It is also Malaysia's prayer and hope that a way will soon be found to enable these unfortunate people to return safely to their native lands.

Border Villagers To Watch for Foreign Intrusion

BK1009141490 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 7 Sep 90 p 22

[Text] JOHOR BARU—The Johor government has distributed pamphlets and photographs of aircraft and uniforms used by the Singapore Armed Forces (SAF) to villagers living along coastal areas facing the Republic. State Secretary Datuk Haji Rahim Ramli said on Wednesday [5 September] that the move would enable the villagers, especially Rela [National Voluntary Corps] and Village Development and Secruity committee members, to identify Republic of Singapore Air Force [RSAF] aircraft and armed forces personnel intruding into Malaysian territory.

He said the photographs and pamphlets were part of the government's programme to create greater awareness among the villagers of the importance of national security. The villagers, he said, were the "eyes and ears" of the government. He hoped they would alert the authorities immediately if they saw any intrusion by foreign forces. "This will enable the authorities to check out the claims quickly and take appropriate action," he said.

On the alleged landing by an SAF helicopter on Aug 10 at a mini-estate in Tebing Runtuh, near Gelang Patah, about 20 km from Johor Baru, Datuk Rahim said a contractor working on a project there photographed the incident. The contractor handed the photographs to the authorities about two weeks later. Datuk Rahim said the helicopter was clearly seen hovering lower than the permissible 152 metres. "The state government is thankful to the contractor for being alert," he added. The State Security Council expressed concern on Tuesday over the alleged "intrusion" by the SAF helicopter but did not consider it "an act of aggression."

Mentri Besar Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said the council had a set of photographs of the helicopter hovering about 15 metres from the ground and sent a report to the National Security Council—NST. [acroynm as received]

(The Defence Ministry in Singapore said on Wednesday that it had investigated the claim that a RSAF helicopter had allegedly intruded into Malaysian airspace and found it to be untrue. Mindef [Ministry of Defense] spokesman Colonel Kwan Yue Yeong added that RSAF pilots were under strict orders to stay out of Malaysian airspace unless they have clearance. Referring to Tan Sri Muhyiddin's comments that an RSAF helicopter had flown low over Johor, Col Kwan said: "We have investigated this latest specific claim that one helicopter had entered Malaysian airspace without clearance. We found no evidence of any such illegal entry. "We have asked Mindef Malaysia for details of the alleged intrusion to help us track down the incident. Unfortunately, they have not given us any information which can throw light on the matter.")

Navy To Study Indonesian Submarine Facilities

BK0609151190 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 5 Sep 90 p 8

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Tues.—The Royal Malaysian Navy [RMN] plans to conduct a study of Indonesia's submarine aid infrastructure as a first step towards buying submarines at the end of the Sixth Malaysia Plan, Deputy Defence Minister Datuk Abang Abu Bakar Datuk Bandar Abang Haji Mustapha said today.

The request for a study tour of the infrastructure locations by a team of RMN officers was forwarded today to the Indonesian Chief of Navy, Vice-Admiral Muhamad Arifin, when he called on the Deputy Minister.

Datuk Abang Abu Bakar said the team would draft guidelines on the training and operation systems as well as the infrastructure for submarines. During the talks, Malaysia also proposed that the Indonesian navy include its submarines in future joint defence exercises. Datuk Abang Abu Bakar said the last joint defence exercise which was conducted between May 28 and June 10 involved eight ships each from the RMN and Indonesian Navy, which also sent two M-22 jets.

An exchange training programme for navy personnel from both countries was also brought up during the talks.

On the situation of the Malaysian officers in the United Nations Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group (UNIMOG), Datuk Abang Abu Bakar said they were "happy and doing well". "They have been well-treated by the Iraqis because they are part of the UN group," he said. Datuk Abang Abu Bakar expressed hope that they would return before February next year, when their service with the UN group expires.

Government Orders Artillery Vehicles From FRG

BK0509091190 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] The Malaysian Army has ordered 10 artillery trucks and ammunition carriers from a West German manufacturer for its artillery unit. Army Chief General Tan Sri Yaacob Mohamed Zain said the vehicles would be used for the FH-70/155 MM [word indistinct] and carry ammunition to all areas for military operations. He said this to reporters in Kuala Lumpur after taking delivery of several similar vehicles from Malaysia's [word indistinct] and equipment.

Mahathir on Elections, UN Visit, Toll Charges

BK0509154190 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 4 Sep 90 pp 1, 3

[Report by Ahmad A. Taib]

[Text] Melaka, Monday—Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed today quashed speculation that he would cancel his official visit to South Korea because of the coming general election. The Prime Minister said he would definitely visit South Korea. Dr Mahathir said this in response to questions from newsmen at a Press conference at the end of his one-day trip to Melaka. He was asked to comment on speculation by opposition parties that the scheduled visit to South Korea would be postponed because of the coming general election.

The Prime Minister is scheduled to visit South Korea from Sept 10 to 14. Some political parties have been speculating that Dr Mahathir's trip would be cancelled.

Dr Mahathir said he was in fact "informed by a source" that he was supposed to "announce the general election date today". Dr Mahathir said a political opponent was sure that he would announce the dissolution of Parliament and State Assemblies in preparation for the election this month. He said: "One source said I am supposed to make the announcement to dissolve Parliament today and that the general election would then be held on Sept 15. The source also believed that a Prime Minister would then take office the following day." Dr Mahathir appeared amused at this "revelation".

Earlier in his speech at the Melaka Exposition Centre, Dr Mahathir said the opposition parties wanted to project a confident mood among their supporters, not realising that the coming general election could probably spell the end of the political careers of some opposition leaders. At the press conference, the Prime Minister also refuted allegations from certain quarters that there was now too much talk on politics and that this had created uncertainty in the country. Dr Mahathir said this was not so because the Government machinery was still busy as usual. He added that this was evident by the large amount of foreign investments coming into the country, which was proof that hard work had been put in to make this possible.

He said the manufacturing houses were as busy as ever producing their items, giving rise to the government's confidence that the country would enjoy double-digit growth this year. "My visit to the states have not adversely affected the performance of the government and the rest of the country." Dr Mahathir said it was inevitable that the people should be talking about the general election. Even then, this should not pose a problem to the country, he said. Dr Mahathir said he would continue with his visits to meet the people and hold dialogues with them when he returns from his South Korean visit.

Asked whether his visit to the United Nations to address the General Assembly had been confirmed, Dr Mahathir said it would depend on his work schedule. "If there's a need for me to go, I'll go .... Otherwise, I'll just continue with my work in the country. In fact, there won't be much rest for me. But just because I'll be busy working in the country doesn't necessarily mean that the general election is going to be held," Dr Mahathir remarked.

Responding to a question on the Cheras toll charges, Dr Mahathir said the $1 fee was reasonable. Asked whether the government would lower the toll charges, Dr Mahathir said this would bring fresh charges from the Opposition, which will be quick to point out that the Barisan National Government is fishing for urban votes.

On the status of the Commonwealth election observers, the Prime Minister said he was still awaiting a response from opposition parties. He said he had already written to the opposition parties on the matter but had yet to receive a reply.

Singapore

Diplomatic Ties Established With Western Samoa

BK0309121890 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 3 Sep 90

[Text] Singapore and Western Samoa have established diplomatic relations. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs statement said the ties are at ambassadorial level.

Cambodia

Developments Continue in Planning SNC Session

To Be Held in Bangkok 17 Sep

BK1309122490 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1140 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Phnom Penh, 13 Sep (SPK)—The delegation of the State of Cambodian headed by Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs, (?returned home) after attending the informal meeting on Cambodia which was held in Jakarta on 9 and 10 September.

The delegation also included Hor Nam Hong, minister of the Prime Minister's Office; Chem Snguon, deputy justice minister; Ke Kimyan, first deputy defense minister; Cham Prasit, deputy minister of the Prime Minister's Office; and Sok An, deputy foreign minister.

At the Jakarta meeting, sponsored by Indonesia and France, the Cambodian parties accepted in full the framework document agreed upon by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council as the basis for the settlement of the Cambodian conflict. They also finalized the formation of the 12-member Supreme National Council which will represent Cambodia externally and will occupy the Cambodian seat at the United Nations, at UN specialized agencies, and at other international institutions and international conferences.

On his way home, Prime Minister Hun Sen paid a three-day visit to Thailand at the invitation of Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan. The Cambodian and Thai leaders discussed the processes of a political solution in Cambodia. Chatchai Chunhawan accepted Prime Minister Hun Sen's proposal to host the first session of Cambodia's Supreme National Council, scheduled for 17 September at the site of the old Cambodian embassy in Bangkok on 17 September.

Hun Sen Discusses Session

BK1309143790 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Statement given by Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister at Pochentong Airport on 13 September—recorded]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, you are already aware of the success of the Jakarta Informal Meeting on Cambodia. I am not going to bring up details about the meeting again [words indistinct]. I want to mention three points. First is the consensus on the final goal we are aiming at, that is a political solution leading to free general elections. Second, we already know the road to follow toward this final goal. This means that we have joined hands in building the first step in accepting the framework document of the UN Security Council members. Third, we have built a craft and have embarked on it together, meaning the formation of the Supreme

National Council [SNC]. However, the main thing is that this craft has not yet been launched.

For this reason, after receiving the invitation of Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan for a visit to Bangkok, I had a consultation with him on the urgent convening of the first session of the SNC. We set Monday, 17 September, as the date of the session. The Thai side is actively engaging in contacting the other SNC members about the 17 September session.

I also discussed with Prime Minister Chatchai about having Bangkok as the venue of the session, taking into consideration Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's declaration last week that the SNC should be held neither in the zone controlled by the Phnom Penh government nor in any areas controlled by the tripartite coalition. However, he said, neither should it be held in any place other than Cambodian territory. Therefore, in order to resolve this problem, in consultation with the Thai prime minister, we decided to take the Cambodian embassy in Bangkok which has been left unattended since 1975 as the venue of the session since it is a territory of Cambodia in the middle of Bangkok.

I proposed that His Excellency Chau Sen Kosal be the first to chair the session on the ground of his age seniority.

This first session will examine and solve four important issues as follows:

First, the formation and selection of the SNC delegation to the UN General Assembly and UN specialized agencies. The documents of the Security Council as well as the Jakarta documents stressed that after its creation, the SNC must occupy the seat of Cambodia at the United Nations. Therefore, the first urgent issue is to prepare a delegation to attend the 45th UN General Assembly to be opened on 18 September. Second, the voluntary cease-fire in response to the appeal of the big five as well as the call of the co-chairmen and UN deputy secretary general in Jakarta. Third, the cessation of aid. Fourth, since the SNC itself is yet to have its chairman, an election should be held to choose its chairman and vice chairmen. Therefore, these are the cases most likely to be solved.

I would like to inform you that during my talks with the Thai prime minister, another possibility arose: In case the SNC fails to hold its session, the most urgent question would become the credentials of the delegation of the SNC to the United Nations. Should this SNC session become unfeasible, we would consult with some parties and make a compromise to set up a delegation and have the 12 members sign the credentials for this delegation to the United Nations. Thus, [words indistinct] a deputy foreign minister and an official in Bangkok in order to coordinate things relating to this matter.

Members of the [words indistinct] are already prepared to meet in Bangkok on 17 September should the session be possible.

This is all I want to tell you. Following the success of Jakarta [words indistinct] there are only four to five days left before we know what will really happen. [words indistinct] what is important, however, is that the UN seat has already been reserved not for any Cambodian factions, but for the SNC. [words indistinct] Thank you.

Hun Sen, Sihanouk Stances Noted

BK1409012190 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 Sep 90 pp 1, 3

[Excerpt] Prince Norodom Sihanouk is ready to end his six-month leave of absence and is prepared to become president of the newly-formed Supreme National Council [SNC] if elected, resistance sources told the BANGKOK POST yesterday. The source told the POST that Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan had written a letter to Prince Sihanouk asking that he chair the 12-member council formed on Monday in Jakarta.

In announcing the formation of the SNC, the four warring Cambodian factions agreed to accept in its entirety the United Nations peace plan drafted by the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council.

In a letter dated September 12, Prince Sihanouk told Mr Khieu Samphan that he is prepared to accept the presidency of the SNC but only if other factions, especially the Phnom Penh government led by Hun Sen, elect him to the post, the sources said. Prince Sihanouk added in his letter that he cannot assign himself to be president of the SNC, the sources said.

Prior to the Jakarta meeting, Prince Sihanouk announced that he was taking an "irrevocable" six-months leave of absence from politics. The prince, despite pleas from his son Prince Norodom Ranariddh, refused to attend the Jakarta meeting—a move which puzzled diplomats and organisers of the meeting.

Mr Hun Sen has not made his position clear as to whether he is prepared to accept Prince Sihanouk as president of the SNC. In Jakarta, Mr Hun Sen said he had to respect Prince Sihanouk's decision to take leave. On Wednesday night in Bangkok, he told Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan that a Sihanoukist member of the SNC, Chau Sen Kosal, the former president of the National Assembly of Cambodia, could act as interim president.

Meanwhile, Mr Hun Sen said yesterday that his government's six SNC representatives are prepared to come to Bangkok if other factions are prepared to meet. Speaking before leaving for Phnom Penh, he said he was leaving behind his deputy foreign minister Sok An and another colleague to wait for the response of the resistance.

Mr Hun Sen on Wednesday night proposed during a meeting with Gen [General] Chatchai that the first session of the SNC be held in Bangkok on Monday. Foreign Ministry Permanent Secretary M.R. Kasem S. Kasemsi yesterday met representatives of the resistance to sound them out on Mr Hun Sen's proposal. Foreign Ministry officials said representatives of the three resistance factions appeared to accept Mr Hun Sen's proposal to hold the SNC meeting in Bangkok, but they had to report to their superiors before the date and venue could be confirmed.

Mr Hun Sen said there were important issues to be discussed at the first SNC meeting, namely:

—The appointment of a delegation to attend the United Nations General Assembly.
—Voluntary ceasefire according to the desires of the five permanent representatives of the United Nations Security Council.
—A moratorium on foreign military aid.
—Choosing the SNC's chairman.
—"Right now we have a key to start the engine but I don't know whether the key will be there on September 17," Mr Hun Sen said.

Commenting on prospects of military self-restraint, Mr Hun Sen said self-restraint is important because it would lead to a ceasefire. "I hope that the other side will express the same goodwill to speed up ceasefire," he added.

He admitted that selecting a chairman of the SNC was important. When asked whether he would mind if Prince Norodom Sihanouk returned to be chairman, Mr Hun Sen said: "I can answer this question after the prince makes up his own mind again. We respect his decision because he is taking a rest, so we don't want to bother him," he said. [passage omitted]

Paper Welcomes 'Major Step'

BK1409042890 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 13 Sep 90

[PRACHEACHON commentary: "We Welcome a Major Step in Jakarta"]

[Text] The recent informal meeting in Jakarta, Indonesia, between Comrade Chairman Hun Sen and leaders of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea, called by the cochairmen of the Paris international conference, was concluded with a fruitful result culminating in a joint statement after two day's work, 9 and 10 September, without Sihanouk's presence.

The meeting finalized the establishment of the Supreme National Council [SNC] with 12 members in accordance with the Tokyo joint statement, six from the State of Cambodia's government and another six from the opposing Cambodian side in the so-called Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea. Through this SNC, the State of Cambodia, which is administering and controlling all aspects of work in the country, will have the right to represent Cambodia in all its international affairs and occupy Cambodia's seat in the United Nations, in various special UN agencies, international establishments, and other international conferences.

This is the result achieved through efforts and active contributions from the international community and countries in the region, particularly since the U.S. policy shift on the Cambodian problem and the recent announcement by U.S. Secretary of State James Baker saying the United States will hold direct talks with the Phnom Penh government. It cannot be denied that this result is also due to the efforts, sacrifice, and concessions full of goodwill of the State of Cambodia's delegation led by Comrade Chairman Hun Sen who was astute and had made efforts to scrutinize the situation, which began with fits and starts due to Sihanouk's perfidious maneuvers. This event has been acclaimed and welcomed by public opinion which has followed the Cambodian issue and felt this result was certainly achieved through the constructive stance of the State of Cambodia, which led the Jakarta meeting to gain positive results despite Sihanouk's absence.

The Cambodian people welcome and acclaim the result of the informal meeting in Jakarta and consider it a major step in the search for a comprehensive political solution for the Cambodian problem. The State of Cambodia's government most rigorously and sincerely abides by the result achieved at the Jakarta meeting and once again appeals to the SNC to convene its first session as soon as possible to quickly lead to ending the bloodletting war in Cambodia. This time around, as on previous occasions, the tripartite Pol Pot-Sihanouk-Son Sann group, despite their clamor for a political solution, in fact has not yet given up its power-hungry ambition and attempt to overthrow the State of Cambodia. Sihanouk, leader of the tripartite group, is carrying out a new maneuver by announcing his withdrawal from political activities for six months, which in fact provides an opportunity for the Pol Pot group to continue to carry out adventurous military maneuvers in a more savage and cruel manner to sow destruction on our people's lives and property.

Therefore, more than ever, our entire people and Armed Forces should further heighten their lofty determination to continue to expand the combined forces of our nation, continue to be vigilant and maintain the overall situation in our land, and absolutely prevent the tripartite group from securing advantages on any battlefield. We should welcome the contribution of the international community for the cause to find a political solution to the Cambodian problem. We will always be sincere to the spirit of finding peace and achieving national reconciliation. However, we will absolutely maintain our country's independence and sovereignty, preserve social and national gains, and prevent the genocidal Pol Pot regime from returning.

Phnom Penh Radio Marks SRV National Day

BK0209132590 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 1 Sep 90

[Station editorial: "2 September, the Day of Great Victory of the Vietnamese People"]

[Text] This year, together with the fraternal Vietnamese party, government, and people, our Cambodian party, government, and people throughout the country, with sentiments of solidarity, friendship, and sincerity, joyously join in celebrating the 45th anniversary of the Independence Day of the fraternal SRV.

Forty-five years ago after the August Revolution won victory, Vietnam entered a new era—the era of independence, freedom, and socialism—and the SRV—the first worker-peasant state in Southeast Asia—was born on 2 September 1945. It was the first time in the revolutionary history of the colonial and semicolonial nations that a party which was then only 15 years old had led the revolution to victory and controlled the state power throughout the country.

Compared with the past 4,000 years of national construction and defense of the Vietnamese people, 45 years constitute a short period of time. However, under the creative, talented, and experienced leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] and esteemed President Ho Chi Minh, the Vietnamese nation has surmounted all dangerous tests and trials and advanced toward the top of its history. From slavery and the loss of their territory, the Vietnamese people have become the masters of their own destinies, displayed their exemplary heroic struggle, and marched into the row of progressive nations across the world in fulfilling their national tasks and splendidly contributing to the cause of world revolution.

Following the birth of the new regime, the Vietnamese people endured another destructive war for more than 30 years by clearly displaying their determination in making all sacrifices to prevent the loss of their territory, resist being subjugated, and hold aloft the teaching that nothing is more precious than independence and freedom. Moreover, not only have the Vietnamese people carried out their sacred mission to liberate the nation and firmly defend their beloved motherland, they have also fulfilled their lofty proletarian internationalist duties, as international friends have said that Vietnam has stood in the front row to expand the liberated zone for mankind.

With regard to our Cambodian motherland, for the past 45 years, the Vietnamese volunteer troops have come to assist and cooperate with our people and Armed Forces in the fight to defeat the old and new colonialists, particularly in toppling the genocidal Pol Pot regime on 7 January 1979.

For the past more than four decades, the Vietnamese people have resolutely pledged to continue implementing the spirit of the August Revolution and fully safeguarded their national independence and freedom, thus bringing their nation to a new revolutionary phase in the course of socialist construction and national defense.

From a country of which the economy used to be dependent on backward agriculture and seriously ruined by the wars, the SRV is attaining notable changes. Implementing the Sixth CPV Congress' resolution setting forth the 1986-90 economic program—the program on production of foodstuffs, utensils, and goods for export—the SRV has now built up material foundations throughout the country and has been able to solve, to a great extent, the food problem for the people.

The Cambodian people will always remember the Vietnamese volunteer troops' valuable benevolence, their model of heroic struggle, and their spirit of sharing weal and woe, cooperating with, and giving timely assistance to friends. All Cambodian people pledge to learn from the spirit of valiant and arduous struggle of the fraternal Vietnamese people, to enhance their sense of self-reliance and spirit of mastery, and strive to surmount all obstacles and difficulties in order to advance toward the cause of national defense and construction to make our country prosperous.

At the same time, the entire party, Armed Forces, and people of Cambodia pledge to vigorously enhance the bonds of solidarity and cooperation between Cambodia and Vietnam and among Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos in the cause of peace, stability, friendship, and cooperation in Southeast Asia and the world. We pledge to take good care of and make this flower of solidarity flourish even more beautifully.

The Cambodian people would like to extend best wishes to the fraternal Vietnamese people. May they achieve even bigger successes in the defense and construction of the socialist Vietnamese motherland in line with the targets set forth by the Sixth CPV Congress.

Agriculture Minister Thanks USSR for Aid

BK0609092590 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 6 Sep 90

[Text] On the afternoon of 4 September at the Agriculture Ministry, Comrade Nguon Nhel, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and agriculture minister, received Comrade Rashit Khamidulin, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Soviet Union who is about to end his diplomatic mission in the State of Cambodia.

Comrade Nguon Nhel expressed elation over the outcome of the ambassador's mission which has further strengthened the bond of friendship and cooperation between Cambodia and the Soviet Union [words indistinct] assistance to the Agriculture Ministry in the fields of veterinary and agricultural machinery.

Comrade Nguon Nhel also thanked the Soviet party, government, and people for assisting the Cambodian people in their national construction and development.

In his reply, the Soviet ambassador welcomed the development in Cambodia and thanked the Cambodian party and government for creating favorable conditions for the comrade to fulfill his mission successfully. The comrade [words indistinct] the Soviet party, government, and people always support the State of Cambodia.

Sar Kheng Speaks at Party Cabinet Meeting

BK0909101690 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 8 Sep 90

[Text] On 7 September, at the central political school of the party Central Committee cabinet, a course was organized to disseminate the directives on implementing the resolutions of the fifth party Central Committee's 11th plenum.

Taking part in the course were comrade party secretaries and deputy secretaries, chairmen of people's committees in municipalities and provinces throughout the country, and comrade ministers, deputy ministers, and chairmen and vice chairmen of party and state establishments, and central mass organizations.

On this occasion, Comrade Sar Kheng, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, chef de cabinet of the party Central Committee, and chairman of the Central Organization Commission, pointed out the situation and measures to implement the resolutions of the party and government to fight corruption and raise thriftiness. Comrade Sar Kheng also stressed the stance of the State of Cambodia's party and government on a solution to the Cambodian problem. The comrade stressed that the meeting in Jakarta will finalize the composition of the Supreme National Council [SNC] to represent Cambodia's sovereignty in the electoral phase.

Party-State Delegation Visits Army School

BK0709072390 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 7 Sep 90

[Text] On the morning of 5 September, a party-state delegation led by Comrade Sar Kheng, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, chief of cabinet of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Central Organization Commission, accompanied by Lieutenant General Ke Kimyan, member of the party Central Committee and first deputy defense minister; and the comrade leaders of various ministries, departments, and mass organizations visited cadres and combatants at the Joint Army School and gave them gifts from various central ministries and departments consisting of utensils and consumer goods worth over 100,000 riel.

After Lieutenant Colonel (Ong Sien), director of the Joint Army School, reported on the achievements made by the school in the past over 11 years and the targets for future tasks, Comrade Sar Kheng praised cadres and combatants for their feats, particularly in building the rank of cadres.

Comrade Sar Kheng laid stress on the perfidious maneuvers of the three enemy groups which have persisted in their attempt to topple the State of Cambodia and destroy our Cambodian people's peaceful life. Comrade Sar Kheng exhorted cadres and combatants at the Joint Army School to pay attention to implementing the three revolutionary goals and to the strategic, tactical, and political training to turn themselves into outstanding combatants who are always victorious in fighting against the enemies.

Deputy Defense Minister Tours Banteay Meanchey

BK1209083190 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 12 Sep 90

[Text] On 6 September, Comrade Lieutenant General Nhim Vanda, member of the party Central Committee, deputy defense minister, and chief of the Logistics Department, visited cadres and combatants of the Armed Forces in a number of units in Sereisaophoan District, Banteay Meanchey Province.

In Sereisaophoan District, Comrade Lt. Gen. Nhim Vanda talked with profound sentiments to cadres and combatants of the Armed Forces. The comrade praised and highly appreciated the heroic example of all cadres and combatants in the district who have paid attention to ensuring security for the local people.

The comrade lieutenant general successively visited cadres and combatants in the T-69 armored unit and E-42 unit under the 4th Military Region, and at the provincial army training school. The comrade called on cadres and combatants to heighten their fighting spirit to defend positions and localities as well as the nation and country.

Phnom Penh Reports Combat Successes in Aug

BK0809091790 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 7 Sep 90

[Text] In August, the three enemy groups continued to fire barrages of hundreds of artillery shells into remote areas along the Cambodian-Thai border in Banteay Meanchey, Battambang, and Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Provinces.

In the same period, our Armed Forces attentively strived to surmount all obstacles and launched (?49) successful search-and-destroy operations against the enemies. As a result, we put out of action 761 enemy soldiers, including 579 killed, (?four) captured, and 162 others forced to surrender. We seized 266 assorted weapons, [words indistinct], three ICOM field radios, and a large quantity of war materiel.

23 Enemy Troops 'Killed' in Week Ending 1 Sep

BK1009073090 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0500 GMT 10 Sep 90

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK September 10—In the week to September 1, troops of the three Khmer opposing factions fired hundreds of shells a day on several northwestern border areas.

In counterattacks, the Cambodian Government troops killed 23 enemy troops, wounded 19 and forced 17 others to surrender. They also seized 10 assorted guns and a quantity of other war means.

In August, 42 men of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea deserted their ranks and surrendered to the authorities in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province (300 km northwest of Phnom Penh).

The deserters included 15 ex-Polpotists, 18 ex-Sihanoukists and nine ex-Sonsannians, who brought along 26 rifles and a quantity of other war means.

The biggest number of deserters was recorded in the districts of Svay Leu and Srei Snam with 13 and 10 respectively.

Phnom Penh Claims 177 'Enemy' Forces Killed

BK1409070590 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Between 2 and 8 September, the three reactionary enemy groups continued to carry out activities using all types of artillery support fire on a number of rural areas along the border in Battambang, Banteay Meanchey, and Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province. Hundreds of shells at a time were fired. On 2 September, the enemy fired 154 artillery shells on the Samraong sector [Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province]. On 3 September, the enemy fired 80 shells on the Treng area in Andaoek Hep village [Battambang Province].

During the same period, our Armed Forces launched mopping-up operations and ambushed the enemy with good results. We clashed with the enemy 23 times, putting out of action 300 enemy soldiers, including 177 killed on the battlefield, 20 taken prisoners, and 103 others forced to surrender. We seized 96 assorted weapons, 123 artillery shells, and a large quantity of other war materiel.

Thai Article Paints Life Amidst Fighting

BK0509025790 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 5 Sep 90 p 4

[Article by Jacques Bakaert under the rubric 'Cambodian Diary' entitled: "An Elusive Peace"]

[Text] I have just returned from yet another trip to Kompong Speu, a province near Phnom Penh which I have visited half a dozen times in the past two years. The situation is not good. Khmer Rouge gains have been obvious from month to month. We were sitting in one of Phnom Penh's bistros sipping icecream soda, smuggled in courtesy of some joint venture between Singaporean and Cambodian entrepreneurs. The friend sitting with me, a Cambodian I have learned to respect and trust through the years, said: "Most people I know do not care any more about meetings and negotiations. A year ago everybody was listening to the radio to get the latest on encounters between Prince Sihanouuk and Hun Sen, on new Australian initiatives, on proposals from the Security Council in New York."

We looked at yet another convoy of buses taking more Police Special A-3 units to some not-so-distant battlefield. "People," said my friend, "do not believe any more that we will have peace in the near future. They have exhausted their patience, their capacity for hope."

This is very much the Cambodia of today. The war goes on—and so does life. One just tries to make the best of it. Another friend told me that she hoped to be able to buy a small car in the future. She had just discovered that one of her closest friends, from her schooldays, was alive and living in the United States. Each had thought the other was dead. They met by chance at the market. The one living in America will help the one living in Phnom Penh. A small car will give the illusion of a pleasant life, of some progress, of accomplishment, a semblance of normality in the middle of chaos.

Phnom Penh is very far from New York, from Paris, from Jakarta—even from Bangkok. It is easier to be optimistic about peace when far away from the problem. There is no doubt that the Permanent Five on the UN Security Council have done a good job. Their blueprint for peace in Cambodia makes sense. But doing a good job is no guarantee for peace in Cambodia. Because no solution can come unless the Cambodians themselves agree. And it seems we are still some distance from a true national reconciliation.

It is not simply a question of power, although this certainly plays a big role in the behaviour of the leaders on each and every side. It is as much a question of almost total distrust for the sincerity of the other side. It is a question of complex feelings going deep into cultural dreams and obsessions, fears and memories.

For the resistance, matters are relatively clear. Cambodia, they believe, is still occupied by a foreign power: Vietnam. Hanoi controls and manipulates a regime which, in the view of the resistance, is made of "puppets," of men and women who have collaborated with the ancestral enemy. The Khmer Rouge describes them as people with a Vietnamese mind in a Khmer body.

In the case of the Sihanoukists and members of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front, their troops are also fighting a regime they see as communist, oppressive, dictatorial and corrupt. And they all see the growing presence of Vietnamese settlers (some Soviet officials now are talking about one million men and women) as a direct threat to the very survival of their national identity.

The resistance sees itself as increasingly alone. The last blow came from the United States, the very same power that for more than 10 years encouraged them to go deep inside and die for freedom and country. The resistance may not be composed of angels and saints. But do not forget that these men, even if they get drunk sometimes or indulge in a little business on the side (they do not have a steady income, nobody is going to pay them a pension), have for the most part sacrificed a lot for a cause they trust is fundamentally just, which they see as a struggle for national liberation.

No matter what American diplomats and politicians will explain in the future, the bond of trust has been breached. Men in grey suits and big shoes in Washington may indeed very well find Prince Sihanouk irrational, emotional and mercurial—and his reactions to the new American policy excessive and unfair. But they should pause for a moment and wonder why is it that the prince is still so popular among his own people. They must understand that Prince Sihanouk—and thousands of Khmers—feel betrayed by the people who claimed to be their best friend.

Being so lonely, the resistance may want maximum guarantees before moving into any agreement with Phnom Penh. A guarantee that probably only the United Nations can provide. Which explains why the resistance welcomed the Permanent Five's plan. "It satisfies all our demands," a senior resistance source said.

The people in power in Phnom Penh deeply resent being called "puppets." "I do not know one single member of this administration who does not wish to see our country fully independent, who does not want the Vietnamese to leave us alone," said an old friend, a senior official of the State of Cambodia (SOC).

In Phnom Penh too, Angkor is the ultimate symbol of national identity and pride. Many of the people around Mr Chea Sim, who is now without doubt the most powerful politician in Cambodia today, are men and women who fought in the underground in the Sixties or early Seventies because they believed in communism, in social justice, in a better world, because Sihanouk had been overthrown by the Right, because they came from poor background.

They fought for whatever reasons men and women around the globe unite and die for progressive political movements. They joined the revolution at a time when Western intellectuals in their majority encouraged such struggles.

Of course the present regime in Phnom Penh owes much to Vietnam. It had little choice, back in 1979. And many saw Vietnamese influence as better, at least for the time being, than a continuation of the radicalism of the Khmer Rouge. Vietnamese communism, with all its shortcomings, was still a lot more humane than the Khmer revolution preached by Pol Pot and his friends.

Today many of the people in the regime would like to see a vast reconciliation between Cambodians, so that the country may recover its full independence. They are no less and no more nationalist than the people of the resistance. The ruling party, the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea, tries to be in charge, to control towns and villages, cities and the countryside. But it represents a small fraction of the population, and probably only a few cadres really care about its future. And even they are more worried about survival than ideological purity. I have never heard anyone close to them ever describe Hun Sen or Chea Sim as "communists."

Most members of the SOC administration are probably strongly anti-communist. Like most Khmers, they want peace, a quiet life. They also would like to keep the jobs for which they are so badly paid. But members of the Politburo and that Customs officer at Pochentong—who once told me he often dreamt that Prince Sihanouk was back in Cambodia as a king—have one thing in common. They fear the Khmer Rouge and are convinced that if the Partie of Democratic Kampuchea returns to power the Khmer Rouge will kill all of them as traitors and "puppets" of the Vietnamese.

Last July Khmer Rouge Radio declared that the "puppet leaders" in Phnom Penh should in the future be brought to trial and sentenced to death. A Khmer Rouge source later said this was just propaganda and should not be taken too seriously. But few people in Phnom Penh are ready to buy a "used promise" from Pol Pot. They certainly take the threat seriously.

From conversations in Phnom Penh and from talks with members of the resistance, I have the sad feeling that peace for the people of Cambodia is still far away. At the time of this writing, absurd questions of protocol—considering the suffering of the population—may ruin the meeting in Jakarta. And if the resistance is ready to accept the Permanent Five's blueprint, Phnom Penh is still reluctant because it amounts pretty much to an end of the State of Cambodia as we know it.

On both sides there are deep convictions and deep feelings. Deep fears. Fears and suspicions that come with the nature of the Cambodian tragedy; which are at the core of the tragedy. And because of which people die every day.

SPK Updates Farming Activities by End of Aug

BK0309100790 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1117 GMT 1 Sep 90

[Text] Phnom Penh, 1 Sep (SPK)—According to statistics of the Agriculture Ministry, peasants throughout the country had by the end of August planted a total of 386,300 hectares of rainy season rice, or more than 20 percent of the plan and an increase of 38,500 hectares compared to the same period in the previous year.

The provinces of Battambang, Kompong Thom, and Banteay Meanchey are on top with 72,160 hectares, 59,100 hectares, and 60,650 hectares of rice transplanted respectively. Apart from rice, they had also planted 37,940 hectares of subsidiary crops.

It is to be recalled that in 1989, the total area cultivated with rice throughout the country reached 1,515,190 hectares.

Over 2,000 Misled Return in Past 10 Months

BK0409051090 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 3 Sep 90

[Summary] In a period of 10 months, from October 1989 to the end of July 1990, 2,185 misled persons throughout the country abandoned the enemy ranks and returned to the fold. Sixty-five percent of the returnees were Pol Pot soldiers. The returnees brought along 1,446 assorted weapons.

In August 1990 alone, 136 misled persons also abandoned the enemy ranks and surrendered; most of them were Pol Pot soldiers who brought along 170 assorted weapons. In August, Kompong Thom Province received 126 misled persons, including 70 Pol Pot soldiers, six Son Sann soldiers, and 50 Sihanouk soldiers, along with 46 assorted weapons.

UNICEF To Continue Food Program 1991-93

BK0109124790 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0440 GMT 1 Sep 90

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK September 1—UNICEF [UN Children's Fund], one of the international organizations in Cambodia, has decided to continue its assistance for promotion of the household food program in the next three years from 1991-93.

Mrs. Janetta Quatia, UNICEF counsellor in Cambodia, said at a seminar on the program organized recently in Phnom Penh that UNICEF has asked several regional institutions such as the Asia Technic Institute, the Centre for Researching and Developing Food Crops, and the FAO [UN Food and Agriculture Organization] bureau to help Cambodia in training agricultural technicians.

She said that the plan for this year was to increase supplies to 11,000 member families of the program, 110 schools, and 34 health centres throughout the country.

The household food program was initiated here in 1985 when the country was affected by a severe drought which caused partial famine to many people. Its aim is to increase food supplies to the needy families, especially children and women, and to help the peasants promote farming.

Since early this year, the program has helped 4,400 families in various provinces. In 1986, the Ministry of Agriculture in cooperation with UNICEF provided assistance to 2,000 families in seven provinces.

Rumor on SNC Meeting in Jakarta Dispelled

BK1409004090 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 13 Sep 90

["Correction From the Spokesman of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea's Delegation Attending the Four-Cambodian-Party Meeting in Jakarta"]

[Text] 1. There has been a rumor that the first session of the Supreme National Council [SNC] was held in Jakarta and that the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK] did not attend the meeting.
2. The spokesman of the PDK delegation attending the four-Cambodian-party meeting in Jakarta would like to specify that there was no meeting of the SNC in Jakarta. The above rumor is groundless.

13 September 1990.

Khieu Samphan Interviewed on Jakarta Meeting

BK1409021890 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Interview with Khieu Samphan by (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea and (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea; dated 13 September—read by announcers]

[Text] [Interviewer] Greetings, Your Excellency Chairman. You have just returned from the meeting of four Cambodian parties in Jakarta. What are you views on the Jakarta joint statement?

[Khieu Samphan] I would like to thank the representative of the Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea.

The meeting was held on 9 and 10 September under the chairmanship of both cochairmen of the Paris conference—His Excellency Ali Alatas, Indonesian foreign minister, and Her Excellency Mrs. Edwise Avice, French deputy foreign minister.

The four Cambodian parties agreed to issue a joint statement fully supporting the documents of the UN Security Council's five permanent members as the basis for solving the Cambodian problem. Furthermore, the four Cambodian parties agreed to set up a supreme national council [SNC], the only legitimate Cambodian organization representing Cambodia's sovereignty during the transitional period. The establishment of this SNC was started in accordance with the latest peace proposal of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, president of Cambodia and leader of the Cambodian national resistance movement, according to which the council has 12 members: six from the Phnom Penh side; two from the

FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] side; two from the Khmer People's National Liberation Front; and two from the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK]. The 12 members of the four Cambodian parties will elect a chairman of the SNC who will become the 13th member of the SNC. The PDK and the other two parties of the Cambodian national resistance forces agreed to support Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as chairman of the SNC because Samdech Norodom Sihanouk is the only statesman everyone respects and accepts both in and out of the country as leader of the Cambodian nation.

The PDK appeals to all four Cambodian parties to jointly write to the samdech asking him to agree to be chairman of the SNC. Only the samdech can lead the SNC to proceed correctly and effectively in cooperation with the United Nations to implement the agreement on solving the Cambodian problem politically and comprehensively in a genuine national reconciliation spirit. Whenever the samdech agrees to accept the chairmanship of the SNC, this SNC will immediately meet to work together and push most quickly for a solution to the Cambodian problem.

At the Jakarta meeting, our PDK showed goodwill and active cooperation with a reconciliatory spirit until the Jakarta meeting achieved this immense result. In the future, our PDK will continue to cooperate in the SNC chaired by the samdech and cooperate with the international community, ASEAN, and the United Nations to solve and achieve peace in Cambodia in the near future.

Son Sann Interviewed After Jakarta Meeting

BK1409084190 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Interview with Son Sann by station editor in chief (Pol Ham) before Son Sann's departure from Jakarta for France on 11 September—recorded]

[Summary] [Son Sann] We have managed to set up the Supreme National Council [SNC] at the meeting in Jakarta. Three parties have agreed to accept Samdech Sihanouk as chairman of the SNC. Only Hun Sen is not yet clear on this point. "This is an obstacle."

"As for the Vietnamese, to those combatants currently inside Cambodia, everyone knows how many of you there are and where you are; it is time you leave. Do not wait to be asked to leave. This would be a disgrace." I appeal to Cambodians to stop killing fellow Cambodians. I appeal to compatriots in Phnom Penh to free all political prisoners to show our unity. "Yesterday, Hun Sen went over to shake hands with Khieu Samphan; I admire this." "If Hun Sen is really sincere, he should write to the samdech asking him to be chairman of the SNC."

I have to go back to France quickly. After one night in Paris, I have to go to Strasbourg to meet with the EC Parliament. "My original plan is to tell people there about our problem, about how tricky Vietnam is, and that Vietnamese aggressors are still in our country." On 14 and 15 September, I will be back in Paris to attend a meeting of Cambodians to inform our compatriots about the Jakarta meeting. After that, it will be New York and also Washington to see our American friends and inform our compatriots there about the Cambodian situation. Our front's general secretary, Ieng Muli, will visit our compatriots in the camps to inform them about the situation.

VONADK Says Curfew Imposed in Battambang

BK0809023490 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 7 Sep 90

[Text] According to reports from inhabitants and our resistance forces' agents operating in Battambang town, since our 28 August attack with 107-mm rockets against Vietnamese enemies stationed at Wat Ta Man, O Dambang, and Banan, killing or wounding a number of Vietnamese enemy soldiers, the situation in Battambang town has been in utter confusion. The Vietnamese enemy and puppet leaders have imposed a dusk-to-dawn curfew from 1700-0700 in the town, and anyone found to break the order will be summarily executed. Various checkpoints around the city have been reinforced with two extra Vietnamese soldiers because Cambodian soldiers are no longer trusted.

The reports further say Cambodian soldiers have, one after the other, escaped from the provincial city daily in order to save their own skin. The Cambodian soldiers said they should flee in advance because there would be no chance to escape during attacks by the national resistance forces and they would certainly be killed. Only the Vietnamese and puppet leaders should be left to die there.

8 Enemy Trucks Reportedly Hit Mines on Route 12

BK0609040690 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] On 16 August, our national resistance forces planted land mines along Route 12 in Rovieng District on Preah Vihear battlefield. Eight trucks of the Vietnamese enemies and their puppets carrying materiel and fuel oil from Kompong Thom to Preah Vihear Province hit these mines in an area between Rumchek and Ton Le M'rich. The eight trucks, including one which contained 10,000 liters of fuel oil, were all ablaze. Ten Vietnamese-puppet soldiers on the trucks were killed; nine others were wounded; and six AK's, two B-40's, and a quantity of war materiel were destroyed.

150 SRV Troops Said Sent to Koh Kong Province

BK0709025090 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 6 Sep 90

[Text] On 28 August, the aggressor Hanoi authorities sent 150 fresh Vietnamese soldiers and 100 Vietnamese nationals—men and women—by boat from Vietnam via Kompong Som city to Ta Ok and Andong Toek villages, Botumsakor District, Koh Kong Province. These Vietnamese soldiers wear puppet army uniforms.

Attack Reported on Bamnak Seat, Krakor District

BK0909100390 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 8 Sep 90

[Text] On 1 September, our national resistance forces launched a five-front attack against the seat of Bamnak in Krakor District on Moung-Pursat battlefield:

—The first front was directed against the Vietnamese-puppet battalion position, west of the Bamnak railway station;
—The second front was against the Bamnak railway station itself;
—The third front was conducted against the Vietnamese-puppet company position at the Bamnak monastery;
—The fourth front was mounted against the office building of Chheu Tom commune; and
—The fifth front was launched against the Vietnamese-puppet company position protecting Dek bridge.

After a two-and-half-hour fight, we completely liberated and occupied the five fronts. We killed 15, wounded 10, and captured five enemy soldiers. We destroyed 84 assorted guns—including six B-40 and B-41 rocket launchers, four RPD light machine guns, 17 AR-15's, 43 AK's, 12 SKS's, an M-79 grenade launcher, and a pistol—a depot with 15 tons of mines, three field radios, five telephones, a water pump, two generators, and some war materiel. We seized 43 assorted firearms, including an 82-mm mortar, a DK-82 recoilless gun, a GORYUNOV heavy machine gun, four RPD light machine guns, 33 AK's, a M-79 grenade launcher, two pistols, and some ammunition. We liberated the following five villages: Dangkeap Kdam, Tea Kdeng, Cham Chas, Cham Thmei, and Chheu Keo Tea.

Indonesia

MERDEKA on U.S. Policy Shift on Cambodia

BK1409055590 Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian 7 Sep 90 p 5

[Editorial: "Washington's Second Interesting Step"]

[Text] The United States has announced the second step to accelerate the Cambodian peace process. U.S. Secretary of State James Baker expressed his country's readiness to hold direct contacts with the Cambodian Government in Phnom Penh. Of course, this has been welcomed not only by the Indochinese countries but also all countries that are interested in an immediate solution to the Cambodian conflict. Moreover, there have been bright signs in the political developments surrounding the Cambodian talks in Jakarta since Norodom Sihanouk and Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen agreed to be present.

Earlier in July, Secretary of State James Baker said the United States would withdraw official recognition of the exiled Cambodian coalition headed by Norodom Sihanouk at the United Nations if the Cambodian conflict remained unresolved. Washington's impatience is something normal considering that the cold war between Moscow and Washington has ended. Moreover, since it is obvious the hard-line stand of the Chinese-backed Khmer Rouge faction has been a stumbling block in the Cambodian peace process, it would not be proper for the United States to get involved.

Norodom Sihanouk, who resides in Beijing, was trying to conduct a political maneuver by saying he would not attend the Cambodian talks in Jakarta. The United States surely believed this maneuver was engineered by China. Thus, it was proper for it to take another realistic step—its readiness to hold direct contacts with Phnom Penh.

Indeed, the U.S. step yielded obvious results. Finally, Norodom Sihanouk, who earlier refused to attend the Cambodian talks in Jakarta, backed down and agreed to be present. Earlier, Sihanouk insisted that he would not come if Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen did not show up either.

All interested countries, including the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, highly hope that the Cambodian peace process will fare much better with the presence of all Cambodian leaders in Jakarta. However, the Cambodian leaders must truly realize the Tokyo talks were very important too and should serve as a basis of the current talks.

It is obvious from Washington's recent political maneuvers toward Indochinese countries, particularly the Cambodian Government in Phnom Penh, that the principle that there is neither natural friend nor enemy will be implemented. The United States will now continue to make approaches to countries it once considered enemies. Of course, this has been motivated by the American people themselves. They will keep asking why Washington can be friendly to Moscow but not with Indochinese countries, particularly Vietnam and Cambodia. For the American people, this is something against common sense.

Accordingly, it would be a historical tragedy for neighboring Southeast Asian countries themselves to continue to regard the Indochinese countries as a threat or as countries which should be watched. On the contrary, countries in the South China Sea region will certainly have a very effective bargaining position [preceding two words in English] if they can achieve political stability and free themselves from the influences of foreign countries. However, large countries will always try to spread their influences in the entire Southeast Asian region later, if not now. To anticipate this, all Southeast Asian countries—ASEAN and Indochinese countries—must quickly strengthen their regional unity.

ASEAN should not be trapped by political maneuvers disguised as economic moves which are in fact designed to serve the interests of certain races. On the contrary, each country should not ignore its own national resilience and security just in pursuit of prosperity.

In this connection, Singapore's invariably vocal policy on the Cambodian conflict should not be allowed to prevail over the desire of the majority of Southeast Asian nations because the strategic value of Singapore is in fact due to its geographical and geopolitical location in the midst of potential Southeast Asia. In fact, Singapore is nothing without ASEAN plus Indochina. The United States sees Indochina and other ASEAN countries as potential countries which must always be reckoned with. Accordingly, recent U.S. political maneuvers in the entire Southeast Asian region have become more realistic.

With this reasoning, the Cambodian peace process now underway in Jakarta will greatly help determine the ups and downs of the development of all Southeast Asian countries. All sides should perceive and realize new recent political realities. Our failure to anticipate these very rapid political developments will certainly have wide-ranging negative effects, which will in turn greatly harm all Southeast Asian nations themselves. We should not allow ourselves to be trapped by situational policies, but we must instead take basic, fundamental, and strategically forward-looking political steps.

Alatas Wants SNC To Immediately Occupy Seat

BK1309123890 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said the Supreme National Council [SNC] should immediately occupy its United Nations seat because a prolonged debate on the need to retain the Cambodian seat, which may have to be resolved through voting, may arise at the upcoming UN General Assembly scheduled for 18 September. Speaking at a parliamentary hearing with Parliament Commission I in Jakarta last night, Ali Alatas said the most urgent thing for the SNC to do is to write a letter to the UN secretary general informing him that the SNC is ready to occupy the seat and present the list of names of its delegates.

Alatas said a clause in the agreement signed by the four Cambodian factions after the SNC was established stipulated that the SNC would represent and occupy the Cambodian seat at the United Nations. However, this must be accompanied by a concrete follow-up action, namely a request to the United Nations to occupy the seat. The SNC, established in Jakarta last week, has 12 members—six from the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea and another six from the Hun Sen-led government.

Sudharmono, Iranian Official on Atomic Energy

BK0609122190 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0936 GMT 6 Sep 90

[Text] Jakarta, Sep 6 (OANA-ANTARA)—Vice President Sudharmono accepted the invitation to visit Iran by the first vice president [title as received] of the Iranian Islamic Republic concurrently president of the Iranian Atomic Energy Organization, Reza Amrollahi when he paid a courtesy call on the Indonesian vice president at Merdeka Selatan Palace here on Thursday.

Reza Amrollahi is currently in Indonesia to attend the international meeting to discuss the problem of expenses for the development of nuclear reactors in developing countries as well as to hold discussions on bilateral cooperation with Indonesia. He called on Vice President Sudharmono to discuss efforts to enhance cooperation in the atomic energy development for peaceful purposes, such as the production of electric energy.

No time for the visit of Vice President Sudharmono to Iran had so far been fixed.

Survey Shows More Faith in Foreign Media

BK0409144990 Jakarta SUARA PEMBARUAN in Indonesian 19 Aug 90 pp 6, 9

[By Sotyati]

[Text] The intensity of people's interaction with foreign media is relatively high. Such intensity is now proved to have influenced their attitude in looking at the government's censorship mechanism on domestic media. The censorship mechanism is considered to be very tight, which has made domestic media impose self-censorship [preceding word in English] in presenting information so as to avoid friction with the government.

Such an attitude has in the long run influenced people's perception of domestic media's credibility, especially in presenting sensitive news. Domestic media are viewed as less objective in presenting information and even inclined to cover up real events to avoid breaking existing laws.

These are some of the findings of a five-month survey carried out since last February. The findings were disclosed at a gathering at the Research Institute of the University of Indonesia in Jakarta on Saturday [11

August] by Martini Mangkudipuro, lecturer of the Indonesian Press System, and M. Fauzi Suaeb, lecturer in communications psychology. According to Fauzi, the findings have given rise to some concern even though the survey involved only 100 respondents. He admitted the number does not represent a certain sector of society, even though the descriptive and analytical [three preceding words in English] survey was carried out in an accidental and snowball [three preceding words in English] way in an original attempt to find how many respondents have satellite dishes. However, 72 percent of the 100 respondents clearly indicated they gave low scores to the domestic media's credibility.

The concern has also arisen from the fact that the respondents tend to accept and use the contents of foreign media in various occasions, especially in daily conversations. All of them admitted the contents of foreign media had been used as points of comparison. None of them said the contents were for personal knowledge.

The majority of the 100 respondents are male, aged between 26 and 40, civil servants, and active in various social organizations. Concerning political orientation, the respondents tend to attach high value on freedom, democracy, and moderate ideology. They are also interested in egalitarianism, socialism, and nationalism, but they are totally opposed to communism and radicalism.

The respondents indicated they needed information on domestic political and economic issues from foreign media. Despite the limited amount available, the foreign media have managed to gratify such needs for information.

For the last 10 years, the respondents have listened to foreign radio (Radio Australia, BBC, and Voice of America), and read foreign magazines (TIME, NEWSWEEK, LIFE) and foreign newspapers (NEW STRAITS TIMES, USA TODAY, SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST). As for foreign television stations, such as [Malaysian] TV3, [Malaysian] RTM1, [Thai] Army TV, and Cable News Network, the respondents have become viewers of these stations only in the last five years.

The survey, financed by the Department of Education and Culture with a grant of 1.5 million rupiah, had triggered some lively debates. The reactions came from lecturers in mass communications from several universities and from the Department of Information. However, Fauzi and Martini stressed: "This is a scientific study conducted by an institute of higher learning. Therefore, our study is titled: 'The public's views on domestic media's credibility.' Besides, we also put forward a proposal that this initial survey should be continued with a greater number of respondents."

Fauzi has reasons to have strong concern over the survey findings, especially when they are related to the rapid development of communications technology and the country's policy on the communications system, which is relatively liberal. If censorship has now been imposed on the printed media, will the electronic media also suffer the same fate? He said: "No officials have thus far taken the trouble to check the correct direction of all satellite dishes in Indonesia."

Fauzi did not fail to point out the existence of rumors circulating by word of mouth, which in turn lead to public uneasiness. A local bank recently became a victim. He asked: "Don't you think it is distressing when people no longer believe in the official explanation?" Therefore, at the end of the gathering, for the sake of national development, Fauzi and Martini called for relaxation of the government's restrictive policy on the national press.

Academic Says Force Inappropriate in Next Era

BK0709101790 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 31 Aug 90 p 1

[Text] Jakarta (JP)—A noted professor of political science says military officers should be "more patient, more accommodating, and more persuasive" in dealing with the public in the next phase of national development. Dr. Yuwono Sudarsono, professor of political science and dean of the School of Social and Political Sciences at the University of Indonesia, made the point when addressing a military audience here Wednesday [29 August].

Yuwono told the audience, which included Army Chief of Staff Gen. [General] Edi Sudrajat and Deputy Army Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. [Lieutenant General] A. Sahala Rajagukguk, that the military's policy of silencing voices which it considered against "national interests" should be altered because it would not be suitable for the next phase of development (1993-2018) when Indonesians will have higher levels of political awareness. "The obsession for national unity upheld by the state apparatus, especially army officers who use TNI (Indonesian National Army) badge in the name of national interests, must be more tolerant and open," Yuwono told the meeting at the Armed Forces Headquarters.

The meeting was a prelude to the 1990 army seminar which will be held in October. That seminar seeks to draft the army's contributions to the 1993-2018 national development drive. Yuwono said in that period the military could no longer use force as the only possible means to deal with the public. Force could be used only as a last resort, Yuwono said.

He said he realized that army officers often chose to use force so that problems could be settled in the quickest possible way, thereby protecting their reputation. But this sort of approach would be outdated in the 1993-2018 development period, which is often called the "take-off" period.

Pressures from population, political development, and economic distribution will necessitate the military taking a fresh look at its policy, Yuwono remarked. If the military insisted on applying its current policy in the take-off period, problems which it tackled would get worse and solutions would be hard to find, Yuwono implied.

Army Chief Edi Sudrajat told the audience the army would never pretend to know everything about human resources development, and therefore it would call in non-military experts to discuss the matter.

Yuwono said the urgent need for the next phase of development would not be how to silence opposition voices, but how to provide constitutional opportunities to the people, for instance, by promoting decentralization policies that would be conducive to national unity.

Human Rights Group Forms New Labor Union

BK0709055290 Hong Kong AFP in English 0458 GMT 7 Sep 90

[Text] Jakarta, Sept 7 (AFP)—Indonesian human rights campaigners announced Friday the formation of a new and independent labour union. The union was set up Thursday by the Institute for the Defense of Human Rights (LPHAM) and two other similar groups and a number of individuals, they said in a statement released here.

The statement said the creation of the union was a right recognised by Article 28 of the Indonesian Constitution which granted individuals the freedom to associate or organise and to express their thoughts. LPHAM Chairman Johannes Princen said the union would be independent of the All Indonesia Association of Workers (SPSI), which is the only labour organisation recognised by the government.

There was no response from the government or the SPSI.

The move came after President Suharto lifted last month a ban on strikes for workers at strategic projects or agencies which was introduced by his predecessor Sukarno 27 years ago.

Laos

PASASON Welcomes Jakarta Cambodia Statement

BK1409061590 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0500 GMT 13 Sep 90

[PASASON feature; date not given: "New Milestone in Settlement of Cambodian Problem"]

[Text] The joint statement issued at the end of the informal meeting of the Cambodian factions which was held in Jakarta on 9 and 10 September is a new milestone on the path toward a political settlement of the Cambodian problem. World public opinion has rightly acclaimed the Government of the State of Cambodia for its active role, sense of responsibility, initiatives, and contribution to the process in seeking a political settlement of the Cambodian problem which has been proved by its relentless efforts to approach all parties concerned to work out a most appropriate formula for the problem, compatible with the Cambodian people's rights and interest and the aspiration for peace in Southeast Asia and the world.

Following issuance of the resolution on the Cambodian conflict by the UN Security Council on 28 August 1990, the Government of the State of Cambodia was the first to declare its support for that resolution. Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers, together with others representing the State of Cambodia in the Supreme National Council of Cambodia, went to Jakarta to attend the informal meeting to facilitate the implementation of the resolution adopted by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and to work with the countries concerned—the two co-chairmen of the meeting, and the other Cambodian factions—to fulfill the noble task of settling the Cambodian problem through peaceful means.

During a news conference in Jakarta, Chairman Hun Sen proudly said: The joint statement issued at the end of the meeting was the best agreement. This is the unprecedented success for us.

The multiethnic Lao people and the people who cherish peace and progress worldwide wish to express our commendation and support for the outcome of this meeting on the basis of respects for independence, freedoms, and territorial integrity of the Cambodian people. The success of the meeting is another good omen for the upcoming Paris International Conference on Cambodia [PICC]. As a participant of the PICC, the Government of Lao People's Democratic Republic will do its utmost to contribute to the efforts to solve the Cambodian problem through peaceful means. The establishment of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia is regarded as the success of the meeting. However, it is certain there are numerous obstacles on the path toward peace in Cambodia. What must be considered is that every approach designed to bring about the settlement of the Cambodian problem must be carefully screened and based on the right to self-determination of the Cambodian people. This hope is pinned with the upcoming Paris International Conference during which the UN Security Council resolution will be raised for thorough consideration.

SRV National Assembly Delegation Arrives

BK1309151190 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] In response to the invitation of Nouhak Phoumsavan, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], a high-level delegation of the SRV National Assembly led by Le Quang Dao, chairman of the National Assembly, left Hanoi and arrived in Vientiane Capital at noon today for an eight-day friendly official visit to the LPDR. Accompanying Le Quang Dao during the visit to Laos are Nguyen Hoa, acting chairman of the SRV National Assembly's Economic, Planning, and Budget

Committee; Yang A Pao, vice chairman of the Nationalities Council; Mrs (Nguyen Anh Tiet), general secretary of the SRV National Assembly's Culture and Education Committee; (Le Thuu Dao), member of the Youth Committee of the SRV National Assembly; and (Nguyen Dinh Lop), deputy head of the Office of the SRV National Assembly.

Le Quang Dao and his party were greeted upon arrival at Wattai Airport by Nouhak Phoumsavan and members of the SPA Standing Committee and a number of high-level officials. Nguyen Xuan, SRV ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the LPDR, was also present at the airport. In the afternoon, Le Quang Dao and his party laid wreaths at the Monument of the Revolutionary Combatants.

At 1430, the delegations of the LPDR and SRV National Assemblies held a meeting at the Office of the Council of Ministers. The Lao side was headed by Chairman Nouhak Phoumsavan and the Vietnamese side by Chairman Le Quang Dao. Speaking to reporters on the outcome of the meeting, Chaleun Yiapaoheu, member of the SPA Standing Committee, said:

[Begin Chaleun recording] Today, the SRV National Assembly delegation led by Le Quang Dao and the SPA delegation by Nouhak Phoumsavan held a meeting. The successes of the meeting are as follows:

1. Comrade Chairman Nouhak Phoumsavan highly appraised the visit to the LPDR of Comrade Chairman Le Quang Dao and his party, welcomed the delegation to our country, and acclaimed the successes scored by the Vietnamese people. Comrade Chairman Le Quang Dao expressed his profound thanks for the warm welcome accorded to his delegation by Comrade Chairman Nouhak Phoumsavan, the SPA, and the Lao people. In short, both sides regarded the visit to Laos of the SRV National Assembly delegation and the recent visit to the SRV of Nouhak Phoumsavan as a contribution to the strengthening of relations and special solidarity and cooperation between our two parties, states, and peoples.

2. The two sides informed each other about the successes on implementing the restructuring policies and plans by each party in the past years. Comrade Chairman Nouhak Phoumsavan informed Comrade Chairman Le Quang Dao and his party of new developments during the past two months following his visit to the SRV, the political and socioeconomic situation in the past years, and, in particular, the success of the movement for discussion of the draft constitution. In this regard, he emphasized the Lao citizens' rights and freedoms of domicile and travel and their obligations toward national defense, and roles and functions of the SPA such as SPA committees at different levels. He also informed Chairman Le Quang Dao about the preparations of draft political report to be presented to the fifth congress of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and the development of the grass roots.

Comrade Chairman Le Quang Dao also informed Comrade Chairman Nouhak Phoumsavan and the Lao side about the successes of the Ninth Plenum of the Sixth Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee during which the socialist construction plan for the transition period of the Vietnamese revolution, the socioeconomic development strategy for the period of 1991 to 1995, and the immediate socioeconomic problems of the country were discussed. Chairman Le Quang Dao also highlighted the achievements and victories scored by the Vietnamese people during the past years as well as subjective and objective difficulties they encountered.

3. Both sides exchanged views on international and regional developments and unanimously agreed with the current changing situation. Both sides acclaimed the successes of the Cambodian people in defending the fruits of the Cambodian revolution in the past years and expressed support for the consistent stand of the State of Cambodia toward the settlement of the Cambodian problem and acclaimed the success of the Jakarta meeting on the Cambodian problem—a step toward the settlement of the Cambodian problem through peaceful means on the basis of respect for the right to self-determination and the interests of the Cambodian people.

These are the successes of the meeting of the two delegations. [end recording]

Editorial Welcomes Group

BK1309063190 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 13 Sep 90

[PASASON editorial; dated 13 September: "Wholeheartedly Welcome High-level Delegation of the SRV National Assembly"]

[Text] In response to an invitation of Comrade Nouhak Phoumsavan, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], today a top-level delegation of the SRV National Assembly led by Comrade Le Quang Dao, chairman of the National Assembly, will begin an official friendship visit to the LPDR. This visit marks another milestone in the promotion and expansion of the friendship relations, all-around cooperation, and special solidarity which have become the fine traditions between the parties, states, and fraternal peoples of Laos and Vietnam.

The close relations of fraternal friendship between the two nations of Laos and Vietnam, which have now fruitfully developed, were built and nurtured by great President Ho Chi Minh. Throughout his life filled with sacrifice, President Ho Chi Minh paid close attention to nurturing the Vietnamese-Lao and Lao-Vietnamese relations of fraternal friendship. The visit to the LPDR by Comrade Le Quang Dao and his delegation on this occasion takes place as the Vietnamese and Lao peoples have just celebrated some significant historic days, namely the 100th birth anniversary of President Ho Chi

Minh—great leader of the Vietnamese people; communist and activist of the international workers' movements; and founder of the Indochinese Communist Party, which is the origin of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP], the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV], and the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party—and the 45th anniversary of the SRV's National Day. The visit is also taking place at a time when situations in the world and in this region are changing in a complicated and peaceful manner. The visit by the SRV National Assembly delegation is, therefore, very significant. It is also a visit, which is required now more then ever, to strengthen the friendship relations between the two parties, states, and peoples of Laos and Vietnam.

For the Lao people, the visit to Laos by the high-level delegation of the SRV National Assembly on this occasion is considered a significant encouragement for them in carrying out the cause of defending and building the country, in particular in the campaigns to prepare for the celebration of the forthcoming historic day—the 15th founding anniversary of the LPDR. The visit by Comrade Le Quang Dao and delegation on this occasion marks the further enhancement of the spirit of the Laos-Vietnam Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation which was jointly signed in Vientiane in July 1989 by Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the LPRP Central Committee, and Comrade Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the CPV Central Committee. The treaty is aimed at promoting and consolidating a new, firmer, and higher-quality friendship and cooperation between the parties, states, and peoples of the two countries.

This visit by the top-level delegation of the SRV National Assembly also follows the glorious success of the visit to the SRV in late July this year by Comrade Nouhak Phoumsavan, member of the LPRP Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the SPA of the LPDR. That visit has paved the way for the strengthening of relations and cooperation between the supreme legislative institutes of the two countries—Laos and Vietnam—with a view to promoting and expanding the democratic rights and the rights of mastery of the people on the basis of the laws and revolutionary legal principles and in accordance with the practical conditions of each country.

The multiethnic Lao people are proud to note that in the protracted and difficult period of revolution, the close and pure relations of friendship between Laos and Vietnam have never weakened. On the contrary, they have even been promoted, expanded, and nurtured all along and have become a factor determining the survival and development of the revolution in each country. At present, that friendship has been promoted and expanded even more fruitfully. Laos and Vietnam have always supported and assisted each other in leading the revolutionary cause of each country to the culmination point of the struggle for peace, stability, and cooperation in Southeast Asia and the world.

The people's assemblies at all levels as well as the multiethnic people of Laos wholeheartedly welcome the visit of Comrade Le Quang Dao, chairman of the SRV National Assembly, and delegation, and wish them success in this significant visit to contribute to stabilizing the treasury of the friendship and solidarity, which were established with blood and great sacrifice by the two nations of Laos and Vietnam.

Medal Conferred on Vietnam TV Marks Founding

BK1209101190 Vientiane KPL in English 0858 GMT 12 Sep 90

[Text] Vientiane, Sept 12 (KPL)—Mr. Bouasi Chaleunsouk, ambassador of the Lao PDR [People's Democratic Republic], to Vietnam, recently presented a "Itsala" medal (third class) from the Lao government to the Vietnamese television, according to a news report from Hanoi.

The presentation of the medal was made on the occasion of the 20th founding anniversary of the Vietnamese TV in recognition of its substantial assistance to the Lao national TV.

Sali Vongkhamsao Attends DPRK Reception

BK1009102990 Vientiane KPL in English 0904 GMT 10 Sep 90

[Text] Vientiane, Sept 10 (KPL)—Mr. Chang Yong-chun, ambassador of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, on September 7 hosted at Lan Xang hotel a reception marking the 42nd founding anniversary of his country.

Among Lao guests of honour attending the reception was Mr. Sali Vongkhamsao, Politburo member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, minister of economy, planning, and finance.

DPRK Leaders Greeted on Founding Anniversary

BK0809045690 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 8 Sep 90

[Text] On 6 September, Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers, and Comrade Phoumi Vongvichit, acting president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], jointly sent a congratulatory message to Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Korean People's Revolutionary Party [KPRP] and president of the DPRK. The message reads:

On the occasion of the 42d anniversary of the DPRK's founding, on behalf of the LPRP Central Committee, the LPDR government, the Lao people, and in our own name, we would like to extend our warm salutations and best wishes to you, comrade, and, through you, to the KPRP Central Committee and the fraternal Korean government and people.

Throughout the past 42 years, under the leadership of the KPRP headed by you, comrade, the fraternal Korean people have managed to score achievements in many fields in socialist construction, thereby bringing continual development to the country, gradually improving the moral and material life of the people, and positively contributing to defending peace and stability in the Korean peninsula as well as in this region and in the world. The Lao party and government would like to wholeheartedly congratulate the Korean people for having scored such brilliant successes and to completely support the new initiatives and positive attempts made by the DPRK in reunifying the country through peaceful means to turn the Korean peninsula into a zone of peace and stability and free from nuclear weapons.

The Lao party, government, and people firmly believe the traditional friendship and cooperation between the two parties, states, and peoples of our two countries will continue to develop for the mutual interests of the Lao and Korean peoples and for peace and prosperity.

We wish you, comrade, good health. May the fraternal Korean people score achievements in the tasks of building and reunifying the country through peaceful means.

On the same occasion, Comrade Phoun Sipaseut, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister of the LPDR, also sent a similar congratulatory message to Comrade Kim Yong-nam, vice premier and foreign minister of the DPRK.

North Korean Youth Delegation Arrives 7 Sep

BK0709122590 Vientiane KPL in English 0900 GMT 7 Sep 90

[Text] Vientiane, Sept 7 (KPL)—A delegation of the Central Korean Socialist Youth Union [name as received] led by its president [title as received] Choe Yong-hae arrived here yesterday on a six-day visit to Laos, at the invitation of the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union.

The delegation yesterday afternoon met with its Lao counterpart to discuss the promotion of the relations and cooperation between youths of the two countries.

2,000 Attend Rally

BK1009102590 Vientiane KPL in English 0905 GMT 10 Sep 90

[Text] Vientiane, Sept 10 (KPL)—A rally with 2,000 youth and students attending was held here on September 8, to hail a current official visit to Laos by a delegation of the Central Korean Socialist Labour Youth Union [name as received].

Speaking at the rally as first secretary of the Central Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union, Mrs. Thonvin Phomvihan voiced support for the cause of the Korean national reunification, urging for an immediate release of Miss Yim Su-kyong, an end to attacks on the South Korean students who fight for justice, and for the U.S. troops withdrawal from South Korea.

On his part, Mr Choe Yong-hae, head of the Korean youth delegation, said the Korean youth and people will do all to promote the relations of friendship between the two countries' youth unions as wished by their leaders.

Phoumi Vongvichit Greets Mongolian President

BK0709123790 Vientiane KPL in English 0855 GMT 7 Sep 90

[Text] Vientiane, Sept 7 (KPL)—Acting president of the Lao PDR [People's Democratic Republic] Phoumi Vongvichit recently sent a message of congratulations to Mr. Punsalmaagiyn Ochirbat, over his election as new president of the People's Republic of Mongolia.

The acting president expresses his belief that under the presidency of Mr. Punsalmaagiyn Ochirbat, Mongolia will be able to achieve its cause of national reconstruction. He also expects the latter's continued contribution toward the development of the friendly relationship and cooperation between Laos and Mongolia.

Radio Reports on Student Action in Savannakhet

BK0909091390 (Clandestine) Radio Station of the Government for Liberation of the Lao Nation in Lao 0100 GMT 8 Sep 90

[Text] According to the latest report from the 3d military region [in Savannakhet Province], a sense of dissatisfaction has arisen among students and pupils in the country, (?not only in Eastern Europe). At present, protests have already occurred among students in Laos. [word indistinct]. Their action has not yet reached the stage of displaying protest placards to demand independence, democracy, expulsion of the Vietnamese from the country, and multiparty elections as their Lao counterparts in the East European countries and (?Moscow) are doing.

According to the report, since 21 August a number of students and pupils in Savannakhet Province have fled into jungles without any indication of what they intended to do. Their teachers and parents as well as leftist Lao authorities have expressed deep concern over their disappearance, declaring that the truant students will not be punished by their school administrations if they voluntarily return to class. It was also reported that some of the students have been captured while many others have either fled across the border or taken up arms to fight.

It appears the odious Kaysone regime has stepped up special precautionary measures at many schools in Savannakhet and other localities in Laos to prevent any uprising by the students [words indistinct]. The regime has imposed stringent Stalinist-type spy regulations at these schools by infiltrating its elements among student ranks to report on their activities and political inclination. Meanwhile, (?it has been speculated that there is a link between) the protest in Warsaw and the student activities in Vientiane, Savannakhet, Thakhek, Pakse, Luang Prabang, and other places in Laos (?along the line of thinking of calling for) independence, democracy, expulsion of the Vietnamese from Laos, and free multiparty elections.

We, the fighters for democracy, do not want to take sides, but we would like to offer a comment that where there is severe oppression, there is (?strong reaction) and resistance.

Seminar on Suppression Tactics Reportedly Held

BK0909090190 (Clandestine) Radio Station of the Government for Liberation of the Lao Nation in Lao 0100 GMT 8 Sep 90

[Summary] After reshuffling some of its military officers at the coordination command for the northern provinces recently, who were charged with disobedience and inclination toward democracy as reported earlier by Olkur station, from 10 May to 10 June 1990, the "odious Kaysone regime held a seminar for its military officers and soldiers at the airfield of Houai Sai District, Oudomsai Province." More than 300 officers and soldiers from the (?415th) battalion stationed at the Sianghon-Sianglom garrison and the 417th battalion from the Paktha District garrison in Oudomsai Province attended the training course on suppression tactics against rebellious forces. One of the group of elite lecturers sent by the Vientiane National Defense Ministry was Major General Siphon Phalikhan.

"No matter where the lecturers come from, either the National Defense Ministry or Vietnam, they are only able to give the trainers lessons on Stalinist tactics for suppressing justice- and democracy-seeking people. We are fully convinced that the more they intensify their suppression drives against democracy-seekers, the greater the latter will proliferate in number because this odious system has been hated by the people all over the world. There is no use trying to prolong this system in Laos. Is that not right, General Siphon Phalikhan?"

Philippines

Manglapus Sees 'Drawn Out' Bases Negotiations

HK1309072790 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 13 Sep 90 p 7

[By staffmember Marites Paez]

[Text] Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus indicated yesterday that the Philippine bases panel was gearing up for drawn out negotiations with the United States on the future of the American military bases here after the present agreement expires in 1991. "We cannot finish these talks in one sitting," Manglapus told Palace reporters when asked whether he expected to get some meaningful results from the bases discussions set to begin on Sept. 17.

Manglapus, head of the Philippine panel, refused to state his estimate of the talks' exact duration and the agenda. He only said that the negotiations "are to deal with the whole range of Philippine-U.S. relations." He said that the talks would have to go on recess and enter another round, unlike the week-long exploratory talks held last April.

Manglapus said the Philippine panel will not unveil its position on the bases until it has received the U.S.' official proposals regarding the fate of the six American facilities here. "We are not going to make our own proposals (known) until their (US) proposals are on the table," he said.

Informed sources had told the CHRONICLE that the Philippines had adopted this strategy as a way of establishing a "lessor-lessee" relationship with the U.S. Local pro-bases advocates have insisted that the government demand a "rent" for the use of the military facilities, and not just aid under a "best efforts" arrangement as contained in the 1947 RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. Military Bases Agreement. They said the U.S. would be under obligation to pay the "bases rentals contained in a treaty. The U.S. has fallen short of its bases commitments pledged under the 1988 Schultz-Manglapus agreement on a "best efforts" policy.

Senate Urges Return of U.S. Camp, Station

HK1209034590 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 12 Sep 90 p 6

[By Johanna Son]

[Text] The Senate committee on foreign relations yesterday approved a resolution asking President Aquino to demand from the U.S. the return of Camp John Hay and Wallace Air Station, regardless of whether a new bases treaty is forged. It also agreed that the Philippines should "review" the proposed abrogation of the Mutual Defense Treaty (MDT) with the U.S., but put off a final decision on the resolution. The resolution, filed by Sen. Ernesto Maceda, seeks the return of the U.S. facilities in Baguio City and San Fernando, La Union not later than Sep. 17, 1991, or upon expiration of the 1947 RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. Military Base Agreement [MBA].

Sen. Leticia Shahani, committee chairperson, asked the bases negotiating panel to discuss the issue at the resumption of talks next week. "I hope they're listening to us (the Senate)," said Shahani. The legislative-executive base council has also recommended the immediate return of John Hay, which is a recreational base, and Wallace Station, a radar facility. The committee also began studying a more radical resolution calling on the President to abrogate the 1951 MDT which is the "mother treaty" underlying Philippine-American relations.

The resolution—whose approval was held in abeyance pending other senators' views—asks Mrs. Aquino to serve the notice of termination of the MDT. The treaty is in force indefinitely, until either party serves a notice of termination that takes effect a year late. Shahani agreed that the MDT ought to be reviewed, but "I am for giving ourselves more time (in deciding) because we're (now) negotiating on the MBA."

Enrile said that the Philippines, in order to change its dependent relations with Washington must end both the MBA and the MDT. He said that the U.S. uses the MDT as a justification for its "need" for base areas. Washington claims to need the facilities so that it can comply with commitments under the MDT, under which the two countries are supposed to help each other when attacked in the Pacific. "It is about time that the Philippines call for the scrapping of such a treaty which is palpably disadvantageous to the Philippines and derogatory to its stature as an independent and sovereign nation," said Enrile.

Enrile said the MDT was lopsided in the U.S. favor. While the Philippines would have to help the U.S. if it was attacked on the Pacific, the U.S. had to first secure congressional approval. "Past experience has demonstrated that the United States was neither prepared nor ready to come to the defense of the Philippines in its conflict at the time with a neighboring nation," he added. Enrile was referring to U.S. unwillingness to help Manila in its dispute with Malaysia over Sabah, and during hostilities with the Mnlf.

Transfer of Bases Talks to U.S. Suggested

HK1209120190 Quezon City MALAYA in English 11 Sep 90 pp 1, 3

[By Ellen Tordesillas with Romy Tangbawan and Didi Doloricon]

[Excerpt] Threats from anti-government forces may force the transfer of the bases negotiations to Washington after a week of initial discussion in Manila next week, an official of the Department of Foreign Affairs said yesterday. The official said the military has received reports that rebel soldiers are planning to disrupt the talks. Earlier communist rebels also threatened to attack U.S. facilities and servicemen.

On the eve of exploratory talks last May, New People's Army guerillas killed two U.S. servicemen outside Clark Air Base. "The threats to security increase pressures to hold the second round of talks in the United States," the official said. Some officials have opposed the plan to hold the talks in Washington, saying the atmosphere will not be conducive to the Philippine panel.

Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus, head of the Philippine panel, said they have not decided on continuing the talks in Washington, but did not rule out the possibility. Manglapus is leaving for New York on Sept. 24 for the 45th United Nations General Assembly. [passage omitted]

British Firm Hired To Study Bases Conversion

HK0709094990 Quezon City MALAYA in English 6 Sep 90 p 2

[By Ellen Tordesillas]

[Text] The Legislative-Executive Bases Council [LEBC] has hired a British firm to make a one-week survey on the potential of Subic base as an international ship repair facility after Filipino consultants bungled the preparation of the conversion plan costing P [Peso] 2.5 million. Documents obtained by some members of the press showed that Swan Hunter, a British firm that helped convert the British bases in Singapore and Malta into a commercial merchant shipping base, was hired by the council to do the seven-day survey for $28,471.

In an Aug. 13 letter to Jose Abueva, LEBC chairman, T.J. Bearder, Swan Hunter general manager for sales and marketing, said he was sending a three-man evaluation team "to determine viable alternatives for the military baselands paying particular regard to the possible development of a ship repair/shipbuilding facility and construction of a container transshipment port."

According to Bearder's letter, his team was supposed to be in Subic today up to Friday. The team will then go to Singapore to write a report to be submitted on Sept. 12. An LEBC source, however, said the Swan team was already in Subic last Saturday. A council member said they had to hire Swan after they discovered at a very late stage in the preparation of the bases conversion plan "that we did not have enough expertise about international marketing."

The member said Basic Technology and Management Corporation, the local consultant hired to undertake a plan for "Subic Maritime Industrial Complex Development project," did not have a grasp of the global and regional dimension of ship repair and shipbuilding."

Sen. Leticia Shahani, an LEBC member, threatened to resign from the council last July. In a letter addressed to Undersecretary Arturo C. Corona, another council member, Shahani said the consultants have "an engrained approach of looking at the Subic naval base as a domestic rather than a global and international resource." "I have in the past insisted that the expertise in the conversion of Subic naval base should include, as a matter of minimum requirement, expertise relating to the shipping industry, the container industry, the oil taner industry, as well as knowledge of the global picture of these industries and the elements required for competitiveness in these complex and highly technical industries," Shahani said.

LEBC hired another consultant, Victorino A. Basco [VAB] president of VAB Maritime Corporation, to evaluate the work Basic has done. Basco found out that in the absence of specific data on the structures inside the base, the consultants proceeded to plan bases based only on discernible major infrastructure from available blueprints. "Thus, the consultants did not acquire an appreciation of the valuable assets that may be destroyed in the process of site development of the industrial zone and transhipment port," Basco said.

Basco added: "It is feared that the cost of damage the consultants may do in those existing infrastructures could exceed the economic benefits which the proposed projects hope to generate." Basco said the plan for floating drydock facilities is not feasible in Subic because it is more expensive than graving drydocks and because of limited open space for steel hull fabrication.

Aquino Briefs Media on Multisectoral Meeting

HK1409071590 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0425 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Press briefing by President Corazon C. Aquino at Malacanang Palace with local correspondents—live, in English]

[Text] [Aquino] Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen of the Malacanang media. I'd like you to know, first of all, that we have just finished with the first multi-sectoral consultative meeting and I'm very pleased to report to the nation that we had a very frank and candid exchange of views on many of the crucial issues confronting our nation today. I thank everybody who came and participated in this consultation process and we all agreed that there will be committees set up in order to further refine the points and issues taken up and also to come up with concrete and democratic suggestions for the government and private sector to undertake. I have also given instructions to the CORD, the Cabinet Officers for Regional Development, to conduct similar consultation processes with their respective regional development councils.

So, I'm now prepared to answer your questions.

[Press Secretary Gomez] The president will entertain a few questions. Uh, would the ladies and gentlemen please come forward? Utilize this mike in identifying yourselves.

[Baluyot] Good afternoon, I'm Veronica Baluyot from GMA News. The National Democratic Front has expressed its openness for a peace dialogue with the government. It's also suggesting that the MNLF [Moro National Liberation Front] and the rightist rebels be included in the peace initiatives. May we have your comment on this?

[Aquino] Well, you know that it is Secretary Drilon together with Senator Tanada who have formed this committee with regard to peace talks, so these matters can be properly addressed by that committee.

[Baluyot] But are you open to that?

[Aquino] Yes, of course, I'm open to all peace initiatives so long as the process that we take will also be a peaceful process.

[Aban] Mrs. President, Freddie Aban of Channel 4. What were the major concerns that were discussed in the multisectoral meeting, Mrs. President?

[Aquino] Well, uh first of all, Secretary Drilon gave a briefing in order to inform the group about the most pressing concerns of the moment and, also, we presented to them what government was doing with regard to these issues: Primarily, the concerns of our overseas contract workers from the Middle East who now have to be repatriated and who have to be helped in the matter of seeking employment. Secondly, the oil prices brought about by the Gulf crisis. Then, the matter of peace and order. Also, the matter of delivery of basic services such as garbage and the repair of potholes in Metro Manila.

[Aban] Mrs. President, if I may just touch on one particular issue, the oil price hike, impending oil price hike. This is a major issue which has been hounding a lot of people: When it is going to come and what steps government will undertake. Are there any suggestions that were made from the other sectors on how they can help government in this respect?

[Aquino] Well, uh first of all, I would like you to know that both the Senate and the house are now, or will soon be, meeting—and the conference commitee—with regard to the conversion of the ad valorem tax to specific taxes. Before the consultative meeting, I had talked with some of the senators present and indicated to them the position of government and, in the morning, I had also called up some of the representatives who are members of the conference committee. We are waiting for the conference committee to come up with the final version of this bill which will convert the ad valorem taxes to specific taxes.

[Pamintuan] I'm Amy Pamintuan from PHILIPPINE STAR. Vice President Laurel sent you yesterday recommendations, resolutions, and the results of their forum. Did you take this up today?

[Aquino] No, I did not, because basically some of them really were matters that we were going to take up with consultative, with the multisectoral consultative group. At any rate, I do thank the Vice President and Senator Mercado for their proposals and their recommendations and these will be further studied by the committees to which we will be assigning these problems.

[Pamintuan] There are calls from several sectors that you should reconcile with your vice president.

[Aquino] Yes, I guess that will come when I am convinced, and, well, first of all, maybe he could convince me by issuing a statement abhorring and condemning the terroristic acts perpetrated by the military rebels. So far, I have not heard him say anything against the RAM [Reform the Armed Forces Movement] or against any of these destabilizers. So, perhaps as an initial proof that he is indeed willing and is indeed serious about offering me his assistance he could at least make the lines very clear on who are the people that he supports. If he is completely for the Constitution, then I would like him to say categorically that he is not only against, but he will go after those who are seriously trying to bring down this government and to go against the constitutional processes.

[Orejana] Good afternoon Mrs. President, I am Gene Orejana of the MANILA TIMES. Did you discuss with these representatives the possibility of imposing emergency measures in case of a breakdown in the peace and order situation arising from the oil price increases and the worsening Gulf crisis?

[Aquino] Well, specifically, I think what was being asked for was that we inform the people fully on these measures that we are taking, explain to them how these decisions were arrived at and that, at the same time, always assuring them that we are looking primarily after their interests. And that while it is true there are certain realities that we have to accept, still, government, especially the executive branch and the legislative branch will work together in order that the pending or the soon-to-be-announced increases in oil prices can be addressed, giving the least possible burden on those of our people who are in the bottom 30 percent. In other words, what I would like is for us to arrive at a situation where those who have more will be asked to carry the greater burden.

[Orejana] Did some of these representatives raise concern about implementation of emergency measures?

[Aquino] No, we did not take up the matter of emergency measures. It was just a two-hour meeting. Half an hour was taken up by Secretary Drilon in the matter of briefing everybody about the current situation. But these other matters will be taken up by the committee because it is really impossible to take up all of these concerns in minute detail because of time constraints and also because of so many concerns demanding our attention. But these, as I said, will be taken by the committees that we will be forming, composed not only of the people who were present this morning, but we could expand these to include other sectors as well.

[Orejana] Thank you, ma'am.

[Villanueva] Good afternoon, Mrs President. I am Marichu Villanueva from the MANILA STANDARD. In your opening statement, ma'am, you said that this is the first monthly meeting. Does it mean that you will hold a regular meeting of this group?

[Aquino] Did I say monthly? I say this is, anyway, this is the first meeting. I don't think I said monthly, but if I did, I am correcting myself. I don't recall saying monthly. This is the first multisectoral...

[Villanueva] Do you intend to meet regularly?

[Aquino] We will be meeting but I am more interested in having these committees meeting regularly. But I would, of course, meet again with this multisectoral consultative body.

[Villanueva] Ma'am, can you give us the state of conditions in the country right now, given all the pressing problems in the country?

[Aquino] Well, in fact, I was just telling the press secretary before I came in that perhaps what was discussed at this morning's meeting could be televised so that the great majority of our people could have the opportunity to know exactly what went on and to know the actual situation obtaining in our country.

[Villanueva] Ma'am, how would you describe the state of the country?

[Aquino] I have to say that we do have very serious problems brought about by, well, first, the coup attempt of December, then after that, the drought and the ensuing power shortages. Followed by the earthquake and then the floods and now the Middle East crisis. So, all of these problems together, well even individually, already constitute enormous problems for us, but since these are all happening in such a short time and happening at the same time, we necessitate everyone in this country pitching in and cooperating with government in order to make the ensuing problems not as difficult as they would be.

[Toldanes] Mrs President, I am Ronnie Toldanes of Spanish News Agency. This is a follow-up to the question of Miss Baluyot. You said that you are open to all peace initiatives. Well, in the case of military rebels, do you intend to impose conditions like they should not stage another coup attempt or military uprising?

[Aquino] Well, I think first of all, they should stop all of these bombings. I think if... when the committee will present their recommendations to me, one of the things that I would immediately ask for is the cessation of all of these bombings and all of these other terroristic activities.

[Gomez] We will take one last question from Marcia.

[Rodriguez] Good afternoon, Mrs President. I am Marcia Rodriguez from the MANILA BULLETIN. In your press statement yesterday, you said that you have deliberately not invited the political opposition to this meeting because it would complicate the process of seeking solutions to our country's problems. But some sectors have said that you have sort of put up a wall or fortress around you, not hearing other sides. So, would you consider inviting political oppositionists in the succeeding...?

[Aquino] Yes, I think so. In fact, in today's meeting, although I invited Blas Ople not as a member of the opposition but primarily representing the media, in effect, he identified himself as coming from the opposition. Besides, I don't think we are wanting in opposition.

I think you are all well aware of the fact that even from within, we do have sometimes different opinions on a certain matter. This is a democracy and, certainly, everybody is free to be heard. Except for this first meeting, I wanted it to be, well, as peaceful as possible and as productive as possible. And it would be good for all of us in this particular group to be trusting each other so that we could really work better and produce the desired results as quickly as possible.

[Rodriguez] You made it clear this morning the conditions you would set for you to reconcile with Vice President Laurel. What are the other conditions for you to reconcile with other opposition leaders?

[Aquino] Why don't we ask them what it is that they think they should do in order to reconcile, not only with me because it is true I am president of the country, but because of all of the coup attempts. So many really have not only been injured but have actually died. So it is not for me to be forgiving all of these people. There are families of these victims who I think would like to see justice done first before we can think of reconciliation.

I have always believed in reconciliation based on justice. And this was long before I even became president. When Ninoy came back here, this was what he was preaching: Reconciliation based on justice. And this is what I continue to believe in and also to advocate: Reconciliation based on justice. Reconciliation definitely cannot be a one-way thing. It cannot be just me forgiving and forgiving. It is also necessary for those who have wronged - not me, because anyway I am above all of these - but those who have wronged, the very people who have supported them. And the very people who trusted in them. And especially those who have gone against the Constitution. Because what normally happens is that these people who are asking for forgiveness or who would like to avail of the rights granted to them under the Constitution forget that those rights also have accompanying responsibilities. So those of us who believe in the Constitution and certainly who defend the Constitution are also asking the same thing of others. If they want to benefit from this Constitution they will also have to abide by the provisions of this constitution.

Thank you very much and good afternoon.

[Gomez] Thank you.

Aquino Explains Peace, National Security Council

HK0709100790 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 0900 GMT 7 Sep 90

[Press statement by President Corazon Aquino as read by Press Secretary Tomas Gomez the Third at Malacanang Palace—live or recorded in English—broadcast in progress—spokesman's statement is a reply to reporter's questions that were submitted earlier]

[Text] ...currently discussed between government and peace advocates resulting from the Senate resolution proposing suspension of hostilities in our fronts. So far, the government has agreed in principle to a cessation of hostilities in the earthquake-affected areas and the NCR [National Capital Region] but with the details and guidelines still to be worked out. For the purpose of working out such details and guidelines, a working group of six members was constituted. Specifically, it has to address three things: One, the area of cessation of hostilities. Number two, the exact activities covered and not covered. And number three, the monitoring mechanism.

Secretary Ramos and General De Villa are both part of the panel holding the current peace initiatives talks and the approach taken has been one of working out details for a limited cessation of hostilities, that is, no offensive military operations in the designated areas such as the earthquake-affected areas plus the NCR.

The peace advocates, however, are acting as catalysts for the peace process, a process in which the government has likewise been engaged since the start of this administration. The matter or stand of the rebel insurgents on this matter, initially communicated through the peace advocates, will further be verified before any agreement for cessation of hostilities can be carried out.

Secretary Manglapus has apologized for this incident. And the president considers the matter closed.

For very obvious reasons, the president cannot now reveal her instructions regarding the forthcoming RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. negotiations on the bases.

Final item. The National Security Council [NSC] as provided under Executive Order Number 115 dated December 24, 1986 has a permanent secretariat under the supervision and control of the National Security Director. The appropriation of 20 million pesos mentioned by Senator Maceda largely pertained to the expenses to maintain this secretariat and the Office of the National Security Director.

Executive Order 115 further provides that among other duties, the National Security Director shall advise the president of matters pertaining to national security. To scrap the appropriations for the NSC Secretariat and the Office of the National Security Director will therefore be unjustified and detrimental to our national security.

The president has directed the Philippine Charity Sweepstake Office board to exercise with competence on these matters and promptly take all necessary and appropriate measures to restore and preserve the integrity of the sweepstakes draw. The NBI [National Bureau of Investigation] has done the investigation aspects of this matter and the proper charges against the perpetrators of the fraud have been and are being fined.

Aquino Urged To Prove Charges Against Laurel

HK0709065190 Manila DWIZ Radio News 882 in Tagalog 0400 GMT 7 Sep 90

[Text] House Assistant Floorleader Congressman Raul Roco today challenged President Corazon Aquino to file charges against Vice President Salvador Laurel if accusations he is acting against the interest of the state are true. This was Roco's reaction to the president's decision to exclude Laurel in the joint working committee which will draft a cease-fire plan between government forces and rebels.

Roco said the country faces great danger if its vice president is kept in the dark about the true situation in the country. He also said if the vice president did commit mistakes, the matter should be brought up in the Senate. While the country has the right to protect itself, the vice president also has the right to go to court and answer charges against him.

Roco added that the president has no legal basis to stop Laurel from attending National Security Council meetings.

Patrol Around Camps Stepped Up After Explosion

HK0709094590 Quezon City MALAYA in English 6 Sep 90 p 6

[By Fernan Marasigan and Chit Estella with Noel Bartolome and Jimmy Perez]

[Excerpts] Brig. Gen. Marino Filart, Capital Regional Command chief, yesterday deployed more troops from "Oplan Nightwatch" around military camps in Metro Manila following intelligence reports that ultra-rightist groups plan to bomb commercial establishments near the camps.

The troop deployment came a day after a bomb exploded at the Greenhills Shopping Center, a few meters away from Camps Aguinaldo and Crame, wounding four persons. No one has claimed responsibility for the explosion. [passage omitted]

Filart downplayed reports that the bombing of commercial establishments near camps would signal the start of another coup attempt. "Nang-aasar lang sila," he said. [They are only acting as an irritant] [passage omitted]

Extreme Left Said 'Isolated' by Truce

HK1409034990 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 14 Sep 90 pp 1, 6

[By Lito Zulueta and Redempto Anda with reports from Diane Mendoza, Noli Cabantug, and Bert Castro]

[Text] Peace advocates exploring ways to end the more than 20-year communist insurgency have assured the government that exiled Communist Party founder Jose Ma. [JOMA] Sison and other party hardliners are an "isolated" lot, an official source told the CHRONICLE yesterday. The assurance was given in the face of doubts whether the government's limited truce against the insurgents will hold due to "conflicting signals" from the Left. The source said that a panel of peace advocates which had convinced the government to declare the truce would communicate with their rebel contacts to explain further the "discordant voices" from the Left.

"They would try to make sure if they have a correct reading of the Left, if the membership (of the communist movement) realy wants this (peace)," the official said. "If that is what the membership really wants, then Joma is really isolated." Offhand, however, the official said the government panel had been assured by the peace advocates led by Sen. Wigberto Tanada that Sison was an "isolated voice."

Sison, on exile in Utrecht, Holland, and believed to be the chairman of the Communist Party, has ordered rebels to intensify their offensives and mass actions and rejected the peace talks proposal. Some members of the peace panel echoed the official's disclosure.

Asked if Sison was indeed out of tune with the majority of the armed Left, Fr. Frank Vargas, head of the Association of Major Religious Superiors in the Philippines, said: "All I can say is that there is lot of willingness on their (the Left's) part to talk peace." Vargas said the fact that the National Democratic Front [NDF] immediately declared a unilateral ceasefire in earth-quake-ravaged areas after July 16 should indicate that they thirsted for peace.

Another peace advocate, Dr. Feliciano Carino, secretary-general of the National Council of Churches in the Philippines, said that, while the Left might be giving conflicting signals, th government also had been doing the same. "There appears to be disquiet, resistance from the (armed forces) on the cessation of hostilities," he said. Meanwhile, the peace panel has called on both the government and insurgent forces to agree to an unconditional nationwide truce and to discuss "minimum talking points" concerning the "humanization of war."

The appeal is expected to be amplified today by the group composed of government and non-government representatives and headed by Senator Tanada and Rep. Bonifacio Gillego. Gillego initiated the idea for the government and National Democratic Front to agree to a set of "minimum guidelines" on the conduct of hostilities. These guidelines are to be based on international humanitarian laws.

Yesterday, more voices from the Left were heard. Three detained communist leaders criticized the government truce as "insufficient and superficial to start the peace process." In a joint statement, Rodolfo Salas, Rafael Baylosis and Benjamin de Vera branded Mrs. Aquino's limited truce as a "belated and very limited ceasefire response to the NPA's [New People's Army] unilateral ceasefire declaration covering a much wider area made immediately after the devastating July 16 earthquake and aparently still in effect." The Aquino government "could and should do better," the political prisoners said.

The armed forces' acting chief of staff, Gen. Rodolfo Biazon, expressed the military's wariness over the truce, saying it would not tolerate the visibility of New People's Army groups and members.

Brig. Gen. Alfredo Filler, AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] intelligence chief, said that, while most of the AFP officers were skeptical of the truce, others considered it an opportunity for troops to gain a much-deserved respite from combat.

At the justice department, Secretary Franklin Drilon said the government was considering including the Moro National Liberation Front and the Young Officers Union (YOU), more moderate allies of the rebel soldiers, in an expanded ceasefire. The government is open to accommodating the other armed opposition in the peace process but it wants to concentrate on talks with the communist rebels first, Drilon said. But he ruled out any part for the coup-plotting Rebolusyonaryone Alyansang Makabansa (RAM) [Reform the Armed Force Movement] in any peace initiative. He cited the continuing acts of sabotage attributed to it, such as the bombing in Fort Bonifacio earlier this week.

Ramos Commends Capture of Armory Raiders

HK1009053190 Manila DWIZ Radio News 882 in Tagalog 0400 GMT 10 Sep 90

[Text] Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos commended acting chief of staff Major General Rodolfo Biazon, Northern Police District superintendent Brigadier General Ergardo Dulatorres, and Major Agustin Camalis for their effort in capturing the suspected men of former Colonel Gregorio Gringo Honasan. The raid by Honasan's men on the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] Medical Center's armory was said to be part of their plan to launch a new coup d'etat. Ramos assured that the military will continue to do its role in order to prevent any attempt by the rebel soldiers against the government. According to Ramos, the AFP's effort is slowly bearing fruit due to the information and support given by concerned citizens.

In a related development, Armed Forces vice chief of staff and acting chief of staff, because General De Villa is not here, Major General Rodolfo Biazon, ordered AFP Medical Center commanding general Brigadier General Virgilio Maralit to relieve Medical Center commander Lieutenant Colonel Amando Gangoso and two other administrative corps heads Major Archimedes Ortega and Major Arthur Lardizabal.

Meanwhile, Biazon placed under technical arrest Sergeants Loreto Gagarin and Jaime Orellara, both on duty when the rebels raided the AFP Medical Center armory. Biazon explained that the relief of the officials was due to neglect of responsibility which allowed the incident to happen. He also confirmed that he will charge the four suspected Honasan's men with illegal possession of firearms in furtherance to rebellion or attempted homicide.

P2-Million Worth of Explosives Seized

HK1109033890 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 11 Sep 90 pp 1, 8

[By staff members Joey Caburnida and Noli Cabantug with reports from Manny Mogato and Marites Sison-Paez]

[Text] Defense and security forces yesterday scored a big gain in their drive against rightist rebel soldiers believed to be behind the recent rash of Metro Manila bombings. In Paranaque, a Metropolitan Traffic Police Command (MTPC) team raided a suspected bomb factory, arresting its owner and seizing P [peso] 2 million worth of explosives believed to have been used in the bombings. In Mandaluyong, National Capital Region Defense Command (NCRDC) operatives swooped down on a suspected safehouse of former PC [Philippine Constabulary] Col. Billy Bibit and nabbed his alleged driver-bodyguard and courier.

Maj. Gen. Rodolfo Biazon, acting Armed Forces chief of staff, said the military had identified the civilian-support network of military rebels behind the bombings after it seized documents listing down contacts and supporters of the group. Brig. Gen. Levy Macasiano, MTPC chief, said the owner of the suspected explosives factory was June Tacata, a businessman. He said the confiscated items include 47 sticks of dual and improvised blasting caps, a Beethoven dynamite exploder machine (capable of blasting a 50-story building), a mixture of ammonium nitrate and composition B (high explosives), starch, denatured alcohol, nitrate acid and other bomb-making equipment. Biazon told reporters that Bibit's driver, Alexander Reyes, was being interrogated for his possible involvement in the bombings and other destabilization attempts at NCRDC headquarters in Camp Aguinaldo. In a statement, Presdient Aquino said the failed heist at the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] Medical Center armory should reassure the public that loyal military forces are ready to foil any rightist destabilization attempt.

Macasiano said the explosives were being made in Tacata's house and were "sold, even on a retail basis, to selected and known customers without any official receipt." He added that the dynamite confiscated at Tacata's house bore the brand name "Mayon," the same label found on explosives used in recent Manila and Makati blasts. Authorities are set to charge Tacata with illegal possession and manufacture of explosives, Macasiano said. Tacata was the third bombing suspect arrested in five days. Capcom [Capital Region Command] operatives caught two men carrying two bags stuffed with over 113 dynamite sticks in Cainta, Rizal, last Monday.

Biazon said military dissidents identified with the Young Officers Union (YOU) had planned and executied the foiled armory said. He said former Philippine Military Academy [PMA] cadet Clifford Cobsilen, dismissed by then PMA superintendent Biazon for violating the institute's honor code, led last Sunday's armory raid. Biazon said the former PMA cadet had led the commando team, the same group that did the armory heist, that sprang Bibit. Before this, Bibit had helped facilitate the release of Cobsilen when the latter was arrested for attempting to smuggle high-powered firearms at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport. Cobsilen's former classmates at PMA are now believed to have joint YOU.

Biazon said the military already knew of the planned armory raid three weeks ago, after intelligence agents had gotten wind of the rebel plan. They knew, prior to the incident, that the raiders would use two trucks—one belonging to the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) and the other from Asia Brewery. The raiders had postponed their plan, initially set for Sept. 1, because of the heavy rains and tight security around the hospital.

Authorities allowed the raid, in a plan to track down the raiders to their hideout and leaders. But the said plan backfired when the raiders noticed they were being followed and started a running firefight with their pursuers. Cobsilen managed to escape with six raiders, leaving behind four of their companions, who were later arrested by the authorities. Biazon theorized that the rebels, failing to win over strategic military units to their side, might now be recruiting civilians. They apparently planned to distribute the stolen firearms, consisting of three .30 caliber machineguns, eight handguns, 32 M-14 rifles and 36 M-16 rifles, to the civilian recruits.

General De Villa Submits Retirement Papers

HK1009131990 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 9 Sep 90 pp 1, 8

[By Fe B. Zamora]

[Text] Gen. Renato S. de Villa, Armed Forces chief of staff, has reminded President Aquino of his retirement by January, a move which officials interpreted as De Villa's way of telling Ms. Aquino to start looking for his replacement. Officials close to De Villa also told the INQUIRER he had already submitted his retirement papers for processing as he intends to bow out in December, a month ahead of schedule. "Rene has already reminded President Aquino of his scheduled retirement," a retired general close to the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief of staff said. "He wants to go by December. He is working on his papers.'

INQUIRER sources said Maj. Gen. [Major General] Guillermo Flores, Army chief; Maj. Gen. Cesar Nazareno, PC/INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] chief; and Brig. Gen. [Brigadier General] Arturo Enrile, Philippine Military Academy superintendent, are among those being considered to replace De Villa. "It's an open secret that General De Villa wants to leave for personal reaons. He also wants to give the AFP to another generation of leaders," a division commander said. De Villa, a 1957 graduate of the Philippine Military Academy, [PMA] should have retired in April 1988, but President Aquino gave him a three-year extended tour of duty as AFP chief of staff. He is the only officer in the AFP whose term has been extended.

Maj. Gen. Rodolfo Biazon, AFP vice chief of staff, who is next in line, may yet be named to the post but his coming retirement in April 1991 is apparently a "stumbling block," oficials said. A 1959 PMA graduate, Flores, 53, is the most senior among the major generals. He is retireable in 1993 when he reaches the com-pulsory retirement age 56. Nazareno of Class '61 is retireable in 1995. The youngest among the contenders is Enrile who belonged to Class '62. Enrile led the AFP panel which negotiated with the rebel Scout Rangers in Makati at the height of the failed coup last December.

Many officials said the choice depends on President Aquino. "She can even choose a brigadier general, like General Enrile, or whoever has fer confidence," an Army lieutenant colonel said. "Without the upsurge of the mass movement against them, the Aquino regime and the Armed Forces of the Philippines will continue to be arrogant, demanding that the revolutionary forces surrender principle, people, territory and arms," he said.

Thailand

Chatchai on Hun Sen Meeting, Military Reshuffle

BK1309150190 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan stated during an interview with newsmen at Government House today that the meeting he had with Cambodian Leader Hun Sen last night was smooth. He pointed out that it was the desire of the Cambodian leaders that the twelve representatives of the four Cambodian factions should meet in Thailand prior to their departure to attend the UN session on 18 September. Chatchai stressed that Thailand is not hosting the meeting. He told the Cambodian leader that, as it is not convenient for them to meet inside Cambodia, or elsewhere, he suggested that they hold a meeting at the Cambodian embassy in Thailand as the premise is considered Cambodian soil, and Thailand is willing to help the Cambodian leaders arrange the meeting. This will be the first meeting of the Supreme National Council on Cambodian soil. It is hoped that the meeting would be held on 17 September, prior to their departure for the UN session on 18 September. The prime minister reiterated that it is the desire of the Cambodian leaders to meet in Thailand, and it is not the prime minister, or Thailand, which is hosting the meeting. The prime minister said that he did not discuss any specific issue in detail with Hun Sen when he met the latter last night. Concerning Thailand's help in the reconstruction of Cambodia, Prime Minister Chatchai said that he suggested to the Cambodian leader that he immediately improve the Phnom Penh airport to facilitate the arrival of UN officials to work in Cambodia.

Asked about the annual military reshuffle, the prime minister said that he already has the list. The prime minister said he would not change it, and it should be made public in a few days. Asked about the adjustment of oil prices which took effect from today, the prime minister said that it is necessary to adjust the price in line with the prices in the world markets. He said that the oil prices are higher everywhere. The best way is for us to try to minimize consumption. Asked whether the oil prices will be raised again, he said it depends on the prices in the world markets.

Daily Urges Khmer To Implement Peace Plan

BK1309041390 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 13 Sep 90 p 4

[Editorial: "Cambodia's Triumph Must Not Be Thwarted"]

[Text] It is never too late for peace. And for that reason the decision by the four warring Cambodian factions on Monday to adopt, "in its entirety," the United Nations peace plan and form the Supreme National Council (SNC) deserves unreserved applause.

By forming the SNC, the Cambodians have taken the crucial first step towards what we all hope will be a comprehensive and lasting peace. For too long and too often has the world seen repeated peace attempts inch forward, only to run into problems concerning semantics or posturing resulting in the taking of two or three steps backwards. It should come as no surprise, therefore, that nations of this region and those of the west who have become involved in attempts to settle the conflict for the past decade, are gladdened by the historic decision.

But those who have the most reasosn to be jubilant are the Cambodian people, most of whom have suffered severe hardships caused by conflict and upheaval resulting from the Vietnam War, the murderous reign of the Khmer Rouge, and more recently, the civil war between the Vietnamese-installed Phnom Penh Government and the resistance coalition. For the Khmers who fled the fighting and are languishing in camps along the Thai-Cambodian border, their children who have known only life behind barbed wire and their brethren inside the war-torn country, the Jakarta agreement means real hope.

It is encouraging to hear that the Cambodian leadership realises that the formation of the SNC does not mean that peace has been achieved and that a rough journey remains ahead. The Cambodian leadership must show its determination and readiness to sacrifice factional interests in favour of compromise to ensure that they complete the journey towards peace. While all Cambodian factions agree that the SNC should meet as soon as possible to follow up on progress achieved in Jakarta, differences have already emerged as to who should be the council's chairman. Those who have been involved in the peace process are well aware that any progress can often be stalled over such differences. The Cambodians must realise that they need to strike while the iron is hot and overcome this immediate hurdle regarding the chairmanship.

Agreement by the Cambodians that they need to appoint a delegation to be represented at the upcoming United Nations General Assembly is not as difficult as creating the proper atmosphere on the ground. Cambodian resistance leader Prince Norodom Ranariddh and Phnom Penh Prime Minister Hun Sen have both raised a crucial point—the need for military self-restraint or a ceasefire during the interim period before the Paris International Conference on Cambodia is convened.

In keeping with the achievements of Jakarta, this makes sense because it is in the interests of all sides to try their very best to create a peaceful atmosphere and safe environment inside Cambodia so that no side is given any reason to stall future progress. All measures should be adopted during this interim period to prevent the escalation of the war, otherwise any crucial gains will simply waste away. Thailand and the rest of ASEAN are certain to do whatever they can to contribute towards a peaceful and politically-satisfactory settlement. But the primary responsibility must rest with the Cambodian leadership themselves to ensure that no further problems delay the convening of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia and the negotiations regarding details in implementing the peace plan drafted by the five permanent representatives of the United Nations.

The Cambodian leadership should look further into the future and consider the well-being of its people. After the peace plan is implemented and elections are held they will be faced with an equally difficult and arduous task of leading their country out from the ashes of war and over the numerous hurdles of rehabilitation before achieving economic well-being and a future worth living for the Cambodian people.

Chatchai Meets Visiting ASEAN Correspondents

BK1309152990 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] A group of about 20 ASEAN correspondents called on Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan at Government House this afternoon. Suwit Yotmani, spokesman attached to the Prime Minister's Office, briefed journalists afterward that the visitors discussed with the prime minister the issue of cooperation between Thailand and ASEAN as opposed to Thailand and the Indochinese bloc. The correspondents noted that the prime minister paid more attention to the Indochinese countries than to ASEAN members.

The prime minister replied that Thailand and the other ASEAN members have had a close relationship from the beginning. Meanwhile, Indochina is in close proximity to Thailand. The two blocs therefore should forge ties and promote closer relations in terms of economic, social, and political cooperation. The prime minister said that the Indochinese countries have been ridden with conflicts and fighting. Now the problem is over, and the war zone should become a trade zone. There should be efforts toward development in those countries. The prime minister said that he considered the ASEAN and Indochinese blocs equally important. Both are close to Thailand and both are currently on friendly terms with Thailand.

The prime minister also reported to the ASEAN correspondents on the progress toward a peace settlement in Cambodia. The leaders of the Cambodian factions have agreed to form the Supreme National Council for the administration of Cambodia. They will hold a meeting in Thailand on 17 September. According to the spokesman, the ASEAN correspondents congratulated Thailand for its progress, and thanked it for the hospitality accorded them. They said they have seen many beautiful things while here.

The journalists asked the prime minister about the recent Cabinet reshuffle. The prime minister said a reshuffle is a normal procedure under a democratic system. He said that the government must listen to the voice of the people. He could not say whether or when there will be another Cabinet reshuffle. He said it depends on the situation in the country as well as the wish of the people.

Supreme Court Revokes NAEO NA License

BK1409062590 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] This morning, a Supreme Court judge ruled in favor of the Bangkok press officer's request to revoke the license of the editor and proprietor of the newspaper NAEO NA. The ruling becomes effective immediately. The ruling also declares void an appeal on the newspaper's part.

Warin Phunsiriwong, NAEO NA proprietor, told newsmen that he is ready to publish another paper from 15 September to replace the closed NAEO NA.

The press officer requested revocation of NAEO NA's publication and editorial license because the paper's report on the murder of Saudi diplomats was harmful to friendly relations between Thailand and Saudi Arabia.

Foreign Ministry To Move Workers From Iraq

BK1409054590 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is coordinating with the Labor Department to urgently evacuate 1,800 Thai workers from Iraq. The ministry said in its recent release that it had assigned the Thai Embassy in Baghdad to negotiate with the Iraqi Government for a leniency in that country's visa rules to enable a fast evacuation of Thai workers. The release said the move followed Thai workers' request to the Thai Government to accelerate evacuation plan for them. The ministry said, however, that the planned evacuation for the remaining workers from Iraq faces several obstacles, including exit visa regulation which required that departing workers must have completed working periods stipulated in their binding contracts and received permission from their employers. So far about 340 Thai workers have been allowed by their employers to leave Iraq.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs in another press release thanks the Jordanian and Saudi Governments for their assistance and cooperation provided to Thai workers during their stay in both countries en route to Thailand.

Deputy Minister Reports on Talks in Norway

BK1409100890 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] On his return from Norway, Deputy Foreign Minister Amnuai Yotsuk briefed reporters at the Bangkok International Airport this morning on the results of his visit to that country.

He said his important task during the visit was participation in the third meeting of the joint Thai-Norwegian commission on cooperation in economics, navigation, industry, technology, and trade.

The meeting held in Oslo from 10-12 September reviewed the developments and trends of economy, trade, investment, and bilateral cooperation in various fields, such as communications and transportation, information and data systems, environmental technology, telecommunications, natural gas and offshore oil development, chemical industry, and hydropower development.

He said both sides agreed to expand bilateral relations in trade and other fields. The meeting went on in a friendly atmosphere and concluded successfully. After the end of the meeting, leaders of both delegations signed the protocol.

The Thai deputy foreign minister added that the two delegations also held negotiations on a draft agreement on the promotion and protection of investments in Thailand and Norway. There also was a meeting of a joint working committee on industrial and technological cooperation between the two countries.

Sitthi Resigns as Bangkok Member of Parliament

BK1409075490 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Air Chief Marshal [ACM] Sitthi Sawetsila, member of parliament [MP] for Bangkok Zone 2 assigned his personal secretary Seksan Theppharat to submit his letter of resignation from the post of MP to the president of the House of Representatives at 1130 this morning. Due to an absence of the House of Representatives president, the letter was then handed to an official of the Parliament Office for forwarding to him.

The letter of resignation reads as follows:

Dear President of the House of Representatives:

I want to resign as member of parliament for Bangkok Zone 2, to be effective immediately.

Signed: ACM Sitthi Sawetsila.

According to Article 103 of the Constitution of Thailand, ACM Sitthi's membership has therefore ended, and a by-election will be held within 90 days.

'Rumours' of Government-Military Split Examined

BK1409030590 Bangkok THE NATION in English 14 Sep 90 p 9

[Editorial: "On Rumours and Facts"]

[Text] The prime minister [PM] yesterday tried once again to quash rumours about a simmering quarrel between his administration and the military. Apart from blaming the press for spreading the rumours, he also dismissed persistent reports of some last-minute changes on the lists of the proposed military reshuffle and promised to have them promulgated soon to end all speculation and fear of political interference in the annual transfer and promotion of senior military officers.

The prime minister, who is concurrently the defence minister, openly stated two years ago when he came to power that he would refrain from interfering with the annual reshuffle. Though bureaucratically he can veto any transfer or promotion, he has never been known to use this power. But this doesn't mean he cannot use it.

The speculation and anxiety about the sour relations between the administration and the military are not completely groundless either. First it was the protest resignation of Gen [General] Chawalit Yongchaiyut as the deputy prime minister and defence minister in June after sharp verbal exchanges with PM's Office Minister Chaloem Yubamrung.

Next friends of the ex-Army chief still in the military, notably Supreme Commander Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong and Navy Commander Adm Praphat Kritsanachan, came to his defence. This prompted talk in the administration about removing General Sunthon and Admiral Praphat from their posts. Press reports on this talk alarmed General Sunthon and his followers in the armed forces.

Rumours of a coup threat followed. This in turn worried the administration. And as part of its attempts to deter a coup, the mysterious mobile radio unit of the Mass Communications Organization of Thailand was deployed in Thonburi in July, reportedly to eavesdrop on military radio communications. Tensions rose further when General Sunthon personally ordered the seizure of the radio unit by his troops.

However, the prime minister managed to cool down the situation by ordering a gag on all parties concerned in this dispute and let General Sunthorn's Supreme Command keep the radio unit for the time being. The Iraqi invasion of Kuwait on Aug 2 quickly diverted public attention in Thailand from the dispute to the unfolding Gulf crisis and oil crunch.

With the military reshuffle coming up early next month, rumours have resurfaced to the effect that General Sunthon will swap posts with Gen Wanchai Ruangtrakun, the permanent secretary of defence, and that Admiral Praphat will be replaced by Adm Bandit Chunhawan, a cousin of the prime minister who holds an inactive post in the Defence Ministry. The longer these rumours linger, the more confusion and anxiety they could create. This is why the reshuffle should be announced as soon as possible.

All indications so far are that there will be no unpleasant surprises in the reshuffle. All the top commanders will most probably stay where they are. None of the five full generals in the Army will move. The only major change is the replacement of Third Army Commander Lt Gen Siri Thiwaphan by Lt Gen Phairot Chan-Urai from the Supreme Command.

The reshuffle will see the rise of many more Army generals who were classmates of Army Commander Gen Suchinda Khraprayun in the Class 5 of the Chunlachomklao Royal Military Academy. In order to clear the promotion bottleneck at the top echelon, a special post of "adviser to the Army" was created to accommodate the promotion of Army Deputy Chief-of-Staff Lt Gen Chatchom Kanlong of the Class-5 to the rank of full general.

The rise and dominance of General Suchinda's Class 5 in the Army is a fact of life that the prime minister has to live with. Any attempt to subvert it by political interference in the annual reshuffle would be foolhardy. The Chatchai coalition is not united politically to confront the military head-on. Neither is it popular with the people, especially now that retail oil prices will have to be raised again and again to keep up with rising crude oil prices. We shall see soon whether the prime minister's promise of non-interference in the military reshuffle will turn out to be true or just another rumour.

Athit Assigned To Scan Military Proposals

BK1409020190 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 Sep 90 p 6

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan said yesterday this year's military reshuffle would be announced in the next few days but there would be no surprising changes in the list. In his capacity as Defence Minister, Gen [General] Chatchai has just received the annual reshuffle list from Defence Ministry permanent secretary Wanchai Ruangtrakun.

Gen Wanchai said Gen Chatchai had not told him to change or add anything to the separate lists submitted by the commanders of the three armed services, the Supreme Command headquarters and the Defence Ministry permanent secretary's office. He said a deputy permanent secretary of the ministry would be the only top official to be transferred from there. Sources said Gen Chatchai had assigned Deputy Prime Minister Athit Kamlang-ek to supervise proposals by the Defence Ministry to the Cabinet. [passage omitted]

Army Chief Denies Moves To Oust Minister

BK1409031590 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 Sep 90 p 6

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Army commander-in-chief Suchinda Khraprayun yesterday denied rumours that a group of military officers had called on Gen [General] Chatchai to oust Prime Minister's Office Minister Chaloem Yubamrung. Gen Suchinda said he had never heard of such calls himself and had no idea who would start such rumours or want to have Pol Capt [Police Captain] Chaloem dismissed.

He also said the Army had nothing to do with movements by a group of labour unions for wage increases and calls by the unions for the resignation of the Government. Asked why the labour group should come up with such moves at the moment, Gen Suchinda said Army intelligence units had kept a close watch on the moves.

The Army chief dismissed fears that labour movements would jeopardise the Government's stability and said it was "just a pressure group which one should not be afraid of as long as the Government does the right thing." However, the Capital Security Command is ready to maintain public order and internal peace if the situation got out of hand and the Government asked for help, he said.

Central Bank Reports Trade Deficit Widens

BK1409034590 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 Sep 90 p 18

[Text] Thailand recorded a trade deficit of 138,080 million baht in the first eight months this year, an increase of 50,000 million baht on the corresponding period last year. According to the Bank of Thailand, exports in the period this year rose 15 percent on January to August last year, totalling 387,455 million baht. Imports rose 24 percent to 525,535 million baht.

Although the service and unrequitted transfer account was 70,364 million baht in surplus, the country's current account still recorded a deficit of 67,716 million baht. But during January-August this year, net capital inflow totalled 135,484 million baht and that helped pushed the country's payments account into a surplus of 75,582 million baht. The report said that in August this year alone, the country's exports rose 6 percent from the preceding month while imports rose 4.4 percent. Imports rose in August as crude oil was more expensive while more imports had drawn off the country's reserves.

Inflation After Oil Price Increase Estimated

BK1409071590 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] According to the Business Economics Department, inflation in the past 3 years increased at a respectable level, as indicated by the consumer price index increases in 1988 and 1989 at 3.8 and 5.4 percent respectively. Before the oil price increase, it was expected that the index in 1990 will increase about 5.7 percent. However, after the 13 September oil price increase, the overall annual consumer price index increase is expected at 6 percent. The department expects the oil price increase will result in the consumer price index increase in 1991 to reach between 6.5 to 7 percent, providing that the increase in price of consumer goods reflects the actual increase in production cost caused by the oil price rise.

Government Increases Retail Oil Prices

BK1309020190 Bangkok THE NATION in English 13 Sep 90 pp A1, A2

[By Sorayut Suthatsanachinda, Pichaya Changson, Atchara Pongwuththam]

[Text] The government yesterday announced a rise in retail oil prices by a flat rate of 30 stangs a litre in the first of a series to keep the domestic prices in line with soaring crude prices pushed up by the Gulf crisis. The increase becomes effective today. The move came just one day after the Cabinet approved a package of energy conservation measures which experts consider mild and inadequate in the long run.

It was the first time that the Chatchai administration has raised the oil price. Since he took over two years ago, he had reduced domestic oil prices twice. After yesterday's price increase, the retail prices are still a bit lower than the rates at the end of the Prem administration with the exception of the price of liquified petroleum gas (LPG).

The LPG price rose from Bt [baht] 9.85 per kilo to Bt10.40 compared to the peak level of Bt10.47 in 1980. LPG is widely used in household cooking and by taxis. In yesterday's price adjustment, gasoline and diesel prices rose by 3.5 and 5 percent respectively while the prices of various bunker oil products, which are mainly used in industrial production, soared by about 10 percent. The percentage of LPG price rise amounted to 5.6 percent.

Phala Sukhawet, a deputy governor of Petroleum Authority of Thailand (PTT), held out the possibility that four more price adjustments would hit the country before the end of this year. Senior government experts said they believed that the combined margins of increase would amount to Bt2 a litre by the year end provided that the crude price still moves between $27-30 per barrel.

The Oil Fund has now dropped to about Bt900 million. Before the price adjustment, it was losing about Bt700 million a week. The price rise announced yesterday can hardly check the outflow from the subsidizing fund, trimming the rate to only Bt600 million a week. At this rate, the fund will drop to only Bt210 million on September 17, well below the Bt300-million floor level set under the new pricing mechanism. Therefore, it is clear that the second price adjustment will come in the near future.

The price increase yesterday was restricted to the maximum margin of 30 stangs a litre under the price mechanism. The mechanism requires a 16-stang adjustment for every one-dollar change in the price of the crude. Given the present crude price of $28 a barrel, the domestic prices of oil products must rise by an average of Bt1.68 per litre. Phala said the crude price stood at $27 a barrel yesterday while the Singapore price posting for gasoline amounted to $50. "The retail prices here are based on the Singapore price posting," he said.

Kon Thappharangsi, the minister in charge of energy affairs, said the price adjustment was not abrupt. It was in line with the pricing rules set out by the National Energy Policy Committee on August 7, he added. The minister asked the public not to be excited by the "routine" price increase. But, he admitted that the crude prices on the world market soared at a far more rapid pace than the government had anticipated. Kon dodged the question whether the 30-stang increase was enough to cushion the repercussion of the rising crude prices. "You have to pose the question to the authorities and you should not ask for comments from any Cabinet member because the issue is now in the hands of bureaucrats," he said.

Kon, who is also overseeing investment promotion, said the price adjustment should not check foreign investment in the short run. But he admitted that it would cause a "psychological impact" on stock trading at the Securities Exchange of Thailand. "There are no economic theories on earth to explain stock traders' behaviour," he said. He said responsible Cabinet members prepared measures to cope with the effect of the price rise on consumer good prices quite a while ago.

Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on was in Canada when the new oil price was announcement [as published]. He is due to return home on Saturday.

The director general of the Internal Trade Department Chare Chutharatanakun yesterday called an urgent meeting of responsible officials and assigned them to check the fuel oil stocks at all gas stations throughout the country. They were to start doing this after midnight. Chare said he had ordered officials of his department to crack down on traders who seized the opportunity to hoard their goods or raise their prices in Bangkok. The operation will start today. For provinces, the governors are empowered to arrest hoarders and violators of the controlled prices of basic consumer goods, he said.

Vietnam

Vo Nguyen Giap To Attend Asian Games Opening

OW1309135790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1323 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Hanoi, Sept. 13 KYODO—Vietnamese Vice Premier Vo Nguyen Giap will visit Beijing on September 22 at the invitation of the Chinese Government to attend the opening ceremony of the Asian Games, reliable sources said Thursday. It will be the first visit to China by a Vietnamese vice premier since the 1979 Sino-Vietnamese war. Giap will meet Chinese leaders during his visit. Tran Hoan, minister of culture, information, sports, and tourism, will accompany Giap, the sources said. China and Vietnam began their first vice foreign ministerial-level talks in January 1989 to normalize bilateral relations and a second round in May in the same year. The two countries had informal deputy foreign ministerial-level talks in May and June but failed to narrow the gap on the Cambodian problem.

Vietnamese Communist Party General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh said in August that he is ready to fly to Beijing for a summit with China's senior leader Deng Xiaoping to solve the Cambodian issue and improve bilateral relations. Vietnamese Premier Do Muoi said September 1 that Vietnam will seek to improve ties with China.

More Remains of U.S. Servicemen Returned

BK1309160190 Hanoi VNA in English 1533 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA Sept 13—The Vietnam Office for Research of Missing Soldiers today returned 20 more remains of American servicemen who had died in the Vietnam war to representatives of the U.S. Joint Casualty Resolution Centre.

Since March 1974, this is the 31st time of Vietnam's transferring remains of American servicemen to the U.S. side a total of 424 sets of remains.

As from Sept. 20, 1990 the joint Vietnamese-U.S. (?forensic) team will carry more identification of a number of remains just discovered by the Vietnamese side.

No Plans Made To Move Workers Stranded in Iraq

BK1309161090 Hong Kong AFP in English 1545 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Hanoi, Sept 13 (AFP)—The Vietnamese Government Thursday expressed concern for its 16,000 workers in Iraq but has announced no plans to evacuate them. "The Vietnamese Government is very concerned about the situation of Vietnamese workers in Iraq and will take the necessary measures as the situation develops," a Foreign Ministry spokesman said without elaborating or commenting about evacuation plans.

An official at the Social Affairs Ministry said the only Vietnamese scheduled to return will be "for the moment, those who ended their contracts." So far no Vietnamese have returned from Iraq, which is at odds with much of the world over its August 2 invasion of neighboring Kuwait. Most Vietnamese in Iraq work in the construction sector as part of an agreement between Hanoi and Baghdad, which have enjoyed friendly relations for many years. There are no Vietnamese in Kuwait.

Hanoi, isolated internationally since it invaded Cambodia in 1978, has officially taken a cautious stance on the Gulf crisis. It has expressed "concern" and stressed the need for a peaceful solution without openly condemning Iraq. Vietnam, with serious financial and economic problems, owed Baghdad some 347 million dollars at the end of 1988, according to the latest World Bank figures. Its debt to Kuwait was estimated at 29.8 million dollars, according to the same source.

Do Muoi Congratulates New Mongolian Premier

BK1409044490 Hanoi VNA in English 1531 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA September 13—Do Muoi, chairman of the Council of Ministers, has sent a message of congratulations to Dashiyn Byambasuren on his election as chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Mongolian People's Republic.

Chairman Do Muoi expressed his wishes that the friendship and cooperation between the peoples of Vietnam and Mongolia would further be consolidated and developed, and that the Mongolian chairman would achieve great successes in his new and highly responsible mission.

Le Quang Dao in Laos on 'Official Visit'

BK1409045690 Hanoi VNA in English 1528 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA September 13—Le Quang Dao, member of the Communist Party [CPV] of Vietnam Central Committee and chairman of the National Assembly, left here this morning for an official friendship visit to Laos at the invitation of Nouhak Phoumsavan, president of the Lao People's Supreme Assembly [LPSA], Politburo member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP].

He was accompanied by Nguyen Hoa, member of the CPV Central Committee, acting head of the Economy, Planning and Budget Commission of the National Assembly; Giang A Pao, deputy head of the Commission for Nationalities; Nguyen Anh Tuyet, secretary of the Commission for Culture and Education; and Bach Hung Dao, member of the Commission of Youth, Teenagers, and Children and deputy secretary of the Nghe Tinh Party Committee.

Chairman Le Quang Dao and his party were welcomed on their arrival at the Vientiane Airport by Nouhak Phoumsavan, president of the LPSA; Thongsing Thammavong, member; Maisouk Saisompheng, member of the LPRP Central Committee and president of the Laos-Vietnam Friendship Association, and other senior Lao officials.

Vietnamese Leaders Receive Indian Trade Group

BK1309094490 Hanoi VNA in English 0751 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA September 13—President Vo Chi Cong and Prime Minister Do Muoi received here on September 12 on separate occasions the visiting Indian trade delegation led by Minister of Commerce and Tourism Arun Kumar Nehru.

Speaking to his guests, President Vo Chi Cong expressed high admiration for India's national culture and time-honored civilization and the Indian people's tradition of struggle for national independence. He also expressed sincere thanks to the Indian people for their fine sentiments towards Vietnamese President Ho Chi Minh as was shown in their celebration of his birth centenary in India. He said he greatly rejoiced at the constant development of the friendship and cooperation between the two countries and wished the Indian people ever greater achievements in national development.

When receiving the Indian guests, Chairman Do Muoi highly valued the results of the Indian delegation's visit which, he said, has opened up new possibilities for further economic and commercial cooperation between the two countries.

The chairman expressed heartfelt thanks to the Indian government and people for their solidarity with and assistance to the Vietnamese people.

In his reply to the Vietnamese leaders, Indian Minister Arun Kumar Nehru expressed the resolve of the Indian

Government and people to further broaden their multiform cooperation, especially in the economic and commercial fields, with Vietnam and his belief in the constant development of the traditional friendship between India and Vietnam.

Also present on these occasions were Minister of Commerce Hoang Minh Thang and Indian Ambassador to Vietnam Jagdish Chandra Sharma.

Nghe Tinh-Soviet Movement Anniversary Marked

BK1309072790 Hanoi VNA in English 1527 GMT 12 Sep 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA Sept. 12—Marking the 60th anniversary of the Nghe Tinh-Soviet Movement in Vietnam, the Communist Party newspaper NHAN DAN today editorially says that the Vietnamese people will prove themselves to be forever worthy of the fighting spirit of the Nghe Tinh-Soviet combatants for national independence and sovereignty and for the people's mastery.

The paper recalls the outbreak of this worker-peasant insurrection in Nghe An and Ha Tinh Provinces in Central Vietnam on Sept. 12, 1930 which has since been recorded in Vietnam's revolutionary history as the Nghe Tinh-Soviet Movement.

The paper says:

This heroic armed uprising is completely different from other insurrections or mutinies successively taking place in the country since it was put under the French colonialists' domination. The Nghe Tinh-Soviet Movement ushered in a new revolutionary stage in which the working class and the peasantry were rallied under the leadership of the local organization of the Vietnam Communist Party in a courageous struggle for the the direct aim of overthrowing the colonialist rule together with its feudalist henchmen, setting up a worker-peasant revolutionary administration and implementing the revolutionary administration's policies.

The paper continues:

Although the revolutionary administration, set up by the masses armed with only sticks, swords and spears, lasted for just a few dozen days, because vital conditions for a successful insurrection were not yet ripe and the movement was launched at the local initiative, it set a bright example of revolutionary heroism of the local workers and peasants and communist party members. It was thanks to a correct analysis and assessments of the failure of the Nghe Tinh-Soviet Movement and other following insurrections that the Communist Party could make all preparations for the success of the August Revolution in 1945. On the other hand, inheriting the tradition of staunch revolutionary struggle of the Nghe Tinh-Soviet generations, the Vietnamese people and armed forces later on victoriously carried out the three wars of resistance against foreign aggression for national liberation and defense, and fulfilled our internationalist obligations.

Vo Chi Cong Visits Lai Chau Province

BK1309134590 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 12 Sep 90

[Text] On 10 September, Vo Chi Cong, Chairman of the Council of State, paid a working visit to Lai Chau Province, which was severely affected by a big flash flood in late June.

Addressing the province's key cadres, Chairman Vo Chi Cong praised Lai Chau's party organization and people of various ethnic groups for scoring numerous achievements in the past years. He commended Lai Chau's cadres and people for striving to overcome the flash flood damages, stabilizing production and life in the entire province, particularly in areas hardest hit by the flash flood.

The chairman reminded Lai Chau to implement its socioeconomic development programs more satisfactorily; to bring into full play the strengths of a mountainous province with numerous ethnic groups; to do a good job of promoting forestry; to create conditions for expanding the production of consumer goods and export items made of locally available raw materials; to plant, buy, and process pharmaceutical products; and to develop livestocks raising in order to have enough goods for exchange with the lowlands and gradually improve the living standard of the ethnic minorities.

Article Calls for Suppression of Counterfeits

BK1409063090 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Article by N.V.L: "Things That Must Be Done Immediately"]

[Text] In the past, all kinds of counterfeit and shoddy goods made of paper or bamboo were to be found on Hang Ma Street. People bought these forgeries for use as ceremonial offerings then burned them, believing that their loved ones who had passed away would be able to use them in the nether world. Nowadays, on the same street and in many other places, a lot of fake goods that look like the real things are again on sale. People buy these counterfeits not for the dead, but for the living to use and consume. Undoutedly, fake goods are lousy goods. But, more dangerously, counterfeit food items are unhygienic and harmful, and may contain deadly poisonous substances. Some people in a certain city have reportedly died after taking fake medicine.

I hope that responsible state agencies will suppress and prohibit without delay the trading and production of counterfeits, especially fake medicines. Fake product makers and sellers, especialy those who make and sell items that are harmful to health or cause death, must be severely punished. It is my wish that responsible agencies throughout the country will take immediate action to eliminate this evil for the well-being of the people.

Nguyen Duc Tam Attends Cryptographic Ceremony

BK1309135990 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 12 Sep 90

[Text] This afternoon, 12 September, the central cryptographical sector held a solemn ceremony to mark its 45th founding anniversary as well as its traditional day—12 September 1945-12 September 1990. Attending the ceremony were representatives from many generations of cadres, combatants, and personnel of the central cryptographical sector and delegates from various ministries, organs, and sectors concerned.

Also present were Comrade Nguyen Duc Tam, Political Bureau member and secretary of the Party Central Committee; Comrade Mai Chi Tho, member of the Party Central Committee Political Bureau and minister of interior; Senior Lieutenant General Tran Van Quang, vice minister of national defense; and Lieutenant General Dang Vu Hiep, deputy director of the General Political Department of the Vietnam People's Army.

On behalf of the cadres, combatants, and personnel of the cryptographical sector, Comrade Le Ngoc Luong, acting head of the central cryptographical committee, read a report highlighting the outstanding achievements recorded by the central cryptographical sector during the past 45 years.

Born during the high tide of the August revolution 45 years ago, the cryptographic sector has gone through many arduous struggles and has outstandingly fulfilled all the tasks entrusted by the party and the state, thus contributing worthily to the victories in the wars of resistance against the French and the Americans, as well as the war for national defense.

Starting from nothing, the cryptographical sector has, over the past 45 years, successfully established a top-to-bottom organizational system to effectively serve the leadership, supervision, and command networks of the party and the state. Meanwhile, the sector has standardized and modernized itself step by step to master science and technology, thereby enabling it to apply new scientific and technical findings to its work in a way that suits the actual situation in Vietnam.

On behalf of the party and state, Comrade Nguyen Duc Tam, Political Bureau member and secretary of the Party Central Committee, conveyed the party's and state's warm greetings to cadres, combatants, and personnel of the cryptographical sector. He said: Over the past 45 years, under the party's leadership, the cryptographical sector has become a special scientific-technical secret service. The sector has gradually developed its force to meet the needs arising from leadership and command activities, as well as to magnificently fulfill its internationalist duty.

Comrade Nguyen Duc Tam expressed the hope that cadres, combatants, and personnel of the cryptographical sector would always strive to be worthy of the trust of the party and state. He also urged them to firmly grasp the role, nature, and characteristics of their work in order to constantly and steadily develop and gradually standardize and modernize themselves, thus making it possible for them to do outstanding work in carrying out their assignments under all circumstances.

Council of Ministers Issues Directive on Capital

BK1309113990 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 12 Sep 90

[Text] On 1 September, the Council of Ministers chairman issued a directive on the experimental transfer of the right to use capital for business and production operations to grass-roots state establishments as well as the latter's responsibility to preserve that capital.

Under the directive, each ministry and each provincial, city, or special sector people's committee directly subordinate to the central government will appoint two or four grass-roots establishments under their jurisdiction to conduct an experimental transfer of the right to use capital for business and production operations and to take responsibility for the preservation and development of that capital in accordance with the temporary regulations attached to the directive.

Establishments selected for this pilot project will include representatives of varied techno-economic sectors, production branches which incorporate a large number of units engaging in joint business and production ventures, and other grass-roots state establishments which have been reorganized and have maintained relatively stable business and production operations.

The pilot project will be conducted in September, October, and November. At the end of the trial period, the ministries, provinces, cities, and special sectors concerned will assess the results of the project and submit their reports and suggestions to the Ministry of Finance and the Council of Ministers.

Professor Tran Nham Views Democratic Socialism

BK0609060790 Hanoi TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN in Vietnamese Jun 90, pp 52-59

[Article by Prof. Tran Nham, deputy rector of the Institute of Marxism-Leninism: "Our Attitude Toward the Current Trend for Democratic Socialism"]

[Text] The world communist and workers' movement is undergoing unprecedentedly complex development. The comprehensive and profound crisis of various socialist countries has arrived at a new historic turning point. While criticizing and abandoning the model of "state socialism," people have even wanted to divorce themselves from scientific socialism.

The two long-existing trends in the world workers' movement are the communist trend and the social democratic trend which, inheritantly conflicting since the day their differences were distinguished in 1919, are introducing differing approaches. The shift in the trend of many communist and workers parties in a number of socialist countries toward democratic socialism has aroused profound concern within the ranks of genuine Communists.

Apparently, the question of protecting Marxism-Leninism and scientific socialism has become more urgent than ever before. Beside the monopoly capitalists and the frenzied anticommunists and antisocialists, there have emerged forces that want to renovate society through a noncommunist way. Among these forces, Democratic Socialists are increasing in number and winning the votes of the millions of workers and people of other social strata.

In order to protect Marxism-Leninism and scientific socialism, a profound study of Lenin's heritage is of extreme importance.

Here, it is necessary to point out various concepts and organizations of the world social democratic movement, which consists of the right-wing socialist party, the social democratic party, socialist international party, socialist democratic party, and so on....

Last year marked the 125th anniversary of the First International, the centenary of the Second International, and the 70th anniversary of the Third International. The First International (1864-72) was named after the International Workingmen's Association whose renowned declaration drafted by Marx and Engels was assessed by Lenin as follows: "The First International has laid the foundation for the proletarian struggle of international character to achieve socialism." (Footnote 1) (Lenin, "Collected Works," Volume 38 in Vietnamese, Moscow, page 363) "The Second International has marked the period of preparing the infrastructure for the movement to spread out among the masses in various countries." (Footnote 2) (Lenin, Ibid., page 363)

Lenin attended the Seventh Congress of the Second International in Stuttgart where he gained great credibility. At this very congress, a fierce clash between the opportunistic and renovative trends on one side and the revolutionary trend on the other, the nucleus of the latter being Lenin and the Russian Bolsheviks, started off the prolonged debate between these two trends. Lenin vigorously initiated the theoretical struggle against various revisionist, opportunistic, and rightist trends in the international workers' movement as well as against the ills of vagueness about theory while strengthening the militancy of Communists. Many of Lenin's renowned works of reasoning came into existence during this stage, such as "The Bankcruptcy of the Second International," the "Proletarian Revolution and Kautsky, the Renegade," "Bourgois Democracy and Proleterian Dictatorship," "The State and the Revolution," etc.... In these works of reasoning, Lenin laid bare the heinous betrayal of right-wing democratic socialists before the issue of war, culminating in the murder of those left-wing German social democratic revolutionaries such as (Karl Lipnev) and Rosa Luxemburg on 19 January 1919. Lenin regarded one's attitude toward war and revolution as a touchstone to distinguish the opportunists from the revolutionaries.

Breaking away from the opportunists became an urgent need for the international workers' movement. The birth of the Third International on 2 March 1919 under Lenin's leadership opened a new page in the history of the international communist and workers' movement. In 1943, in the interest of the people's anti-fascist struggle and due to the fact that the organizational form of the Communist International no longer met the requirements of the international communist and workers' movement, this international body was officially dissolved.

Following World War II, during its first congress in Frankfurt (1951), the Socialist International adopted a declaration of the "Aims and Tasks of Democratic Socialism" and the statutes determining the structure of the Socialist International. It also opted for the revival of the Second International. The Socialist International provided a new venue for the social democratic parties to help the workers' movement inherit and develop the legacy of the social democratic system. The social democratic parties in the capitalist countries gradually gave up their antagonistic and hostile attitude toward the communist movement and the socialist countries and adopted a more practical stand vis-a-vis the socialist world. In Sweden, West Germany, Austria, and many other capitalist countries where the social democratic parties remained in power long enough, marked progress was made in promoting economic development and in solving social problems. During its congresses in Geneva and Vancouver in 1976 and 1978 respectively, the Socialist International suggested positive measures to address global issues like disarmament, North-South relations, unemployment, environmental protection, and other problems.

From debates lasting several decades, changes were effected to make policies and plans of action more practical. Nonetheless, the true nature of the social democratic party was still based on opportunism and reformism. The Social Democrats rejected the principled concepts of scientific socialism, played down the role of the dictatorship of the proletariat, and preached parliamentary democracy, a multi-party system, and ideological pluralism. They also opposed attempts to abolish the private ownership of means of production and to do away with capitalist-type social relations. Moreover, they denied the leadership role of the working class and the communist parties.

They introduced the notions of "pure democracy," "unlimited democratization," "classlessness," and so forth to oppose the democratic concepts espoused by the dictatorship of the proletariat.

In another development of the international communist movement, reformism emerged and flourished. Joining the Social Democrats, reformists demanded the revision of all three components of Marxism-Leninism, namely Marxist philosophy, politico-economics, and scientific communism. In their opinion, materialism had long been unable to survive the test of time and the concept of a rich spiritual life had ceased to exist in the materialists and atheists' minds. The notion of inevitable revolutionary development was replaced by the theory of evolution. Regarding economic affairs, they held that monopolistic organizations could help capitalism overcome its crises, that class conflicts had become less serious, and that the right to universal suffrage had eliminated the class struggle. They preached the notion of a gradual transformation from capitalism into socialism. Reformists also denied and replaced the leading role of the working class with that of the intelligentsia. In the 1970's, rallying under the banner of so-called "European communism," modern reformists mounted fierce attacks on socialist realism, demanding the abolishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat and even the abolition of the term Marxism-Leninism.

The common features of the socialist parties and the social democratic parties lie in the diversity of ideological concepts and in an independence from other theoretical institutions. Depending on social conditions and in order to win the votes of workers and other people of different strata, these parties have resorted to demagogic moves in order to deceive the masses. As a result, these parties have played a prominent role under unstable conditions—including unstable conditions created by reformism and opportunism—but have been vulnerable to rifts under difficult historical circumstances.

Lenin was the first to realize the danger of a rift in the international workers' movement and the betrayal of the right wing of the Social Democratic Party. He tirelessly struggled to protect the living soul of Marxism and to make it flourish in the imperialist era. He wholeheartedly supported the stalwart struggle of the left wing of the Social Democratic Party against the imperialists and for the working class's revolutionary cause. He resolutely laid bare the reactionary nature of the right wing of the Social Democratic Party which was typically represented by Kautsky, a theoretician of the Second International who claimed to be a close disciple of Marx and Engels and who boasted of possessing a thorough understanding of the latter's doctrine. Lenin's tenacity testifies to the Communists' unswerving stance as well as the scientific analysis of the social democratic movement in each development stage of history.

The lessons drawn from Lenin's theoretical concepts and practical activities have remained appropriate for today's task of defending Marxism-Leninism.

The first lesson is the need to use a dialectical method and concrete historical facts to study the social democratic movement.

As early as 1916, Lenin defined the three trends of the social democratic movement. World War I gave rise to a serious worldwide split within the social democratic movement. Lenin defined the three main trends as follows:

1. The social-patriotic wing openly recognized the need for "national defense" in the imperialist-led war from 1914-18. This trend reflected the opportunistic nature of the bourgeoisie's henchmen operating within the worker movement.
2. The (Zimmerwald) Left rejected in principle the need for "national defense" in the imperialist-led war and supported the breakaway with the social-patriotic trend.
3. The Center (Kautsky and Haase in Germany and Longuet-Pressemanne in France) insisted on the unification of the above-mentioned trends (Footnote 3) (Lenin, "Collected Works," Volume 28, page 751).

According to Lenin, the classification of this social democratic movement into three trends was of special importance because if one did not have a principled idea about the different trends of the international social movement, one was unable to address any concrete issues.... (Footnote 4) (Lenin, "Collected Works," Volume 28, page 133).

The second lesson is the need to draw a line between true revolutionaries and reformists and opportunists in the social democratic movement and then to wage a resolute, all-out struggle to eliminate the latter's influence on the workers' movement. Lenin asserted: So far, almost all formal social democratic parties have stood in the way of the revolutionary workers' movement. Therefore, our party is dutybound to make it known in the clearest and most resolute, definite, and straightforward terms of its intention to break with that outdated formal socialism. (Footnote 5) (Lenin, "Collected Works," Volume 36, pages 56-57)

The case of Kautsky was typical. It was no accident that Lenin devoted all of his energy to compiling his famous work entitled "The Revolution of the Proletariat and Traitorous Kautsky" in a bid to pursue and deal a decisive blow on the leader of the reformists and opportunists in the social democratic movement at that time. Lenin said: If we fail to take strong measures to get rid of that betraying attitude, that debilitated mood, that vile worship of opportunism, and that unbelievable attempt to degrade the theoretical concepts of Marxism, then there will be no conditions for the working class to fulfill its revolutionary goals.

The third lesson was in Lenin's enthusiastic support for the leftist social democratic elements in various nations. Although differences between him and these elements existed, Lenin considered them as socialist comrades. When the reactionary social democratic group in Germany assassinated (Karl Lipnev) and Rosa Luxemburg, Lenin wrote: "I could not find a proper term to fully describe all the fraudulent, shameful, and vile acts of the executioners who claimed themselves admirers of socialism. The unforgettable bloody sacrifices made by the most outstanding combatants of proletarian internationalism the world over and by the leaders of the international socialist revolution will help forge generation after generation of workers to carry out a life or death struggle against imperialist capitalism and their henchmen."

The fourth lesson: In his theoretical and practical struggles against opportunism and reformism, Lenin consistently reviewed Marxist theories and concepts on proletarian dictatorship, on nationalism and colonialism, on war and revolution, on land issue, on socialist democracy, and so forth. Comparing different concepts—correct and incorrect ones—is a way of searching for a scientific truth, connecting theory with practice, and enhancing the revolutionary masses' comprehension on the revolutionary theory and education of communism. Lenin manifested a profound confidence in the people. He contended that if the masses were led by genuine Communists, then they would not be easily deceived by revisionists and opportunists. Through his struggle, Lenin absorbed the aspiration of the masses and armed them with the ideology of Marxism.

Lenin's methodological lessons in the ideological struggle against social democratic trends in the past retain their value to this day. Analyzing these trends now in accordance with Lenin's methodology, we can see the following two new tendencies:

1. What are the concepts and stands of democratic social (or socialist) parties and organizations that were established not long ago in a number of socialist countries and disintegrated after the recent crisis?

First of all, they rejected socialist realism, contending that the only solution for overcoming the crisis is to abandon the socialist path and switch to capitalism. They fully implemented the bourgeois parliamentary system and pluralism, believing that bourgeois democracy is an effective system to resolve the crisis. They wanted to fully apply the market-economic model of the developed capitalist nations. They did not recognize the great achievements scored in the past during the building of socialism. They contended that the recent failure was due to the consequences of "monopolized" socialism. Relying on hostile forces from outside, they tried by all means—including the tactic of exploiting the people's ardent aspiration for democracy—to win votes from eligible voters. They also took advantage of the people's indignation toward mistakes committed by the leadership of the ruling party to incite the masses to reject socialism. According to Lenin, these are the ultra-rightist social democratic elements. Their objective is to lead the country along the capitalist path. The essence of their social democracy is an effort to welcome capitalism in an illusive fashion. We must struggle to expose the nature of these new reactionaries.

2. Some socialist parties or social democratic organizations in some other socialist countries have advocated the policy of building democratic and humanitarian socialism. They think that the key point is to get rid of dogmatism, parrotism, and rigidity which do not suit the new situation of this era.

While seeking their paths, they have lost their way and come to the point of denying the revolutionary and scientific doctrine of Marxism-Leninism. They made the criticism that the biggest mistake thus far had been to consider Marxism-Leninism an ideology for the working class and to absolutize it into immutable and eternal truths. As a result, they followed a mixed ideology and said they had inherited their critical line from the legacies of Marx and Engels, Bebel and Liebknecht, Luxemburg and Berstein, Lenin and Kowsky.

Moreover, they also realized that although modern capitalism has been effective in achieving some tasks, it is still incapable of resolving social problems and other crucial global issues that are arising. As a result, they hold that from the struggle between the capitalist and socialist paths, mankind must choose the third path and stay away from the two outdated extremes: One is the "old fashioned" socialism—scientific socialism—and the other is monopolistic capitalism. This third path will lead to democratic humanitarian socialism.

Even though they already have a clear-cut plan of action, they could not garner the support of a majority of voters in the recent free elections and so reluctantly accepted joining the political assembly as a nucleus of the leftist opposition force.

Many forces of the second trend are "licking their wounds" caused by capitalism, which used deceitful and crooked maneuvers before and after the elections, confronting the people with a fait accompli.

What are the causes that have rapidly given rise to the social democratic tides through the recent serious crisis in some socialist countries? Below are the main causes:

1. The overall and deep crisis in some socialist countries has led to the disintegration of communist parties and the administrations run by these parties. The new leaderships by their proclamation of severing ties with "old fashioned" socialism have also severed ties with scientific socialism and its theoretical basis, that is Marxism-Leninism. While seeking and discovering the "new fashioned" socialist model, they have perceived the attractiveness of the social democratic model in some capitalist countries ruled by the social parties. They have immediately adopted that model and considered it an exit to rescue their countries from difficulties.

Moreover, in some socialist countries, these social democratic parties had already existed for many years and were then incorporated into the communist parties. However, the ideological and social bases of all those tides were still smoldering at different levels. The crisis suddenly broke out. It was also because the gate has for some time been wide open for the rapids of political pluralism and multipartyism to flow freely through, allowing the social democratic tides to take advantage of the opportunity to accelerate all their courses, intensify their impact, and assert their rectitude.

2. The Socialist International is an organization which has succeeded in bringing together a large number of socialist and social democratic parties. By 1986, this organization was composed of 86 parties with 16 million members living all over the world—Europe, Asia, Africa, and Latin America. At present, they are expanding their influence and are seeking to bring their influence upon socialist countries. It was Willy Brandt, president of the Socialist International who once bluntly said: "It is very interesting that there is now a trend among a number of ruling parties toward achieving democratic socialism. The Socialist International attaches importance to this new trend. We call for increased efforts to get in touch with, listen to, and ask people whether they need our help." External influence and internal unrest have enabled various social democratic trends to meet at a common goal.

3. Imperialist forces have long adopted the strategy to oppose, sabotage, contain, dissipate, and weaken socialism. Now they are trying to fully exploit mistakes and difficulties encountered by socialist countries so as to increase their interference and sabotage efforts and bring about a peaceful revolution. International reactionaries from among various religious organizations and fanatic nationalist forces are also trying to broaden their influence and increase their activities by applying external pressure while building and supporting antisocialist forces and backing the malcontents and opportunists in various socialist countries, thus sowing dissension among the ranks of the working class in these countries and causing them to lose their orientation and to stray from their objectives.

It is necessary to be clearly aware that this is a growing trend with widespread influence and that it contains a certain degree of attraction we should not overlook. Learning from Lenin in this matter, we need to adopt an analytical method and Leninist behavior.

First, we must continue to step up the renovation undertaking set forth by our sixth party congress. Renovation must, however, be based on the principle of being persistent in Marxism-Leninism, in socialism, and in the party's leadership.

Our party has consistently affirmed: Marxism-Leninism must always be a theoretical basis and a guiding ideological foundation for the entire revolutionary undertaking of our people. Socialism has committed countless mistakes, many of them very serious. We must correct our mistakes and be resolved to do away with them without negating the entire theoretical institution whose ideological foundation is Marxism-Leninism. There are people who want to divorce themselves from Marxism-Leninism so they can revert to domocratic socialism. But so far, there is no scholar among them who can match the wisdom of Marx, Engels, and Lenin. If we have misunderstood and misinterpreted their thoughts, we must strive to correct ourselves, but there is no point in us negating their revolutionary and scientific doctrine in order to switch back to a shamble of other doctrines.

Second, to protect Marxism-Leninism, it is necessary to study in a careful, scrupulous, and profound fashion all those things left behind for us by Marx, Engels, and especially Lenin. On this basis, we must bring Marxism-Leninism to a new height and creatively apply it in our country's specific situation. It is of particular concern that we must unfailingly point out the basic differences between scientific socialism and the trends toward democratic socialism and the socialist international. We must arm ourselves with theory, gather our forces, and split the ranks of the democratic socialists in order to protect Marxism-Leninism and the socialist path chosen by our people.

Third, we must clearly distinguish between various different trends for democratic socialism. Regarding the right-wing opportunists, and those who have cheated and betrayed the people and have relied on the backing of imperialist forces in their bid to put the country on a politically adventurous path, we must be resolved to struggle to point out their danger. This is, as we know, also the attitude previously adopted by Lenin against Kautsky.

As for right-wing socialist democratic forces, despite differences in theoretical standpoints and ideological institutions, we, with the motto of more friends and fewer foes, need to ally ourselves with these forces on such matters as opposing imperialism, safeguarding peace, protecting the environment, and preserving the democratic and humane values of socialism.

This was also a correct attitude of Lenin and Uncle Ho. During the days of the Democratic Front, it was our party's policy to join hands with those people belonging to the French Socialist Party to oppose the colonialist reactionaries. In 1972, the social democrats raised their voices to call on the U.S. forces to immediately stop bombing the north. Nowadays, we have established relations with the Socialist International. This is a trend that needs to be developed.

In short, we must avoid two erroneous and negative attitudes toward socialist democratic forces: The first is negating all their gains and regarding all of them as opportunists, reformists, and surrenderers and from this, taking drastic measures against all trends toward democratic socialism; the second is enthusiastically supporting, without analysis, and being receptive to the entire theoretical institution of these forces and desirous of applying it to the specific conditions of each country, regarding it as a correct ideological basis of "genuine" socialism.

Above are a number of issues raised for further, more thorough study. It is hoped that our theorist circle will continue to study this issue in a scrupulous fashion.

Australia

Government Confirms Company Sold Arms to Iran

BK1409064090 Hong Kong AFP in English 0627 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Canberra, Sept 14 (AFP)—The government confirmed Friday that an Australian company had been involved in the multi-million dollar sale of fighter aircraft and other armaments to Iran despite a long-standing embargo. Defence Minister Robert Ray told parliament that although the government objected to the sale of arms to Iran, it could do nothing to stop it because the way it was done was not illegal.

Mr. Ray's statement followed a report in the MELBOURNE AGE newspaper Friday that an Iranian Embassy official had negotiated sales of arms of British and U.S. origin to Iran through a Sydney-based company, named as Evergreen International Group. This was despite long-standing embargos on arms sales to Tehran by Australia, Britain and the United States.

The sale included U.S. F-5 fighters and support equipment worth 94 million dollars (77.6 million U.S.) and obsolete British Hawker Hunter jets worth 6.5 million (5.3 million U.S.), the report said.

Senator Ray said his office had checked whether the deal breached the Australian defence export provisions, but said the provisions "only relate to goods going in and out of Australia".

The weaponry was owned by the Chilean Air Force and offered for sale through a company in Santiago, the MELBOURNE AGE said.

Sen. Ray, answering an opposition question, said his office had checked the multi-million dollar deal between the Australian firm and an official from the Iranian Embassy here. "None of those activities seem to breach any aspect of Australian law at this stage," Senator Ray said during question time. "I don't think the Australian Government would look on those sort of dealings with any support and would indeed object to them."

New Zealand

Moore Offers To Help UN With Cambodia Peace

BK1409043890 Hong Kong AFP in English 0415 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Wellington, Sept 14 (AFP)—New Zealand Prime Minister Mike Moore said Friday his country was ready to help in any effort to secure peace in Cambodia. In a statement he said New Zealand applauded the maturity of the parties involved in trying to resolve the Cambodia question.

Cambodia's warring factions agreed earlier this week on a United Nations framework to settle the conflict over who should control the country.

"We have lent our moral support to the peace resolution process in Cambodia and backed it with an offer of New Zealand involvement in any United Nations peacekeeping efforts," Mr. Moore said.

Defense Program Review With Canberra Welcomed

BK1209084190 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 12 Sep 90

[Text] A decision by the Australian and Papua New Guinea prime ministers to review their Defense Cooperation Program had been welcomed by the defense minister, Mr. Benais Sabumei. Mr. Sabumei said the Defense Cooperation Program should be reviewed by the two governments so resources can be better directed to the Papua New Guinea's real security needs. He says the only threat facing the country is an internal one stemming from the people and the law and order problem.

The defense minister says the review should address areas of need in the Papua New Guinea Army, such as equipment and logistics support. Mr. Sabumei also says some aspects of police training should come under the Defense Cooperation Program.

Papua New Guinea

Government Naming New Venue for Peace Talks

BK1409090390 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] The Papua New Guinea Government said it hopes to name a venue next week for the second round of peace talks with the Bougainville Revolutionary Army. The talks are said to be held on 24 September. Papua New Guinea's National Broadcasting Commission says the government will announce the venue after discussions with the Bougainville delegation led by a former Bougainville premier, Mr. Joseph Kabui.

Meanwhile, the Papua New Guinea prime minister, Mr. Rabbie Namaliu, who said all the coastal ships carrying much-needed goods and medical supplies for Bougainville had been recalled to Rabaul. Bougainville leaders refused entry to the ships because they allegedly were carrying police and soldiers.